



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire.
ESTABLISHED 1859.

"The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique."

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In the Coloured Supplement.

At the Counter.	N.U.A.P.
Athletics.	Patents.
Coming Events.	Verses.

BUSINESS IN THE WEST.

There are large tracts of fertile country in Canada, Newfoundland, the United States, Mexico, South America, and the West Indies, peopled by British men and women. These people are large consumers of all that comes from Home, and traders in these places cater largely for their needs. We have inquiries periodically from wholesale and retail dealers in drugs, druggists' sundries, perfumery, soaps, and chemists' goods generally in these countries for advice as to the best markets for specific articles. These firms are substantial buyers, and we are giving advertisers a special opportunity of getting in touch with them by publishing on June 15 a

NEW WORLD ISSUE.

The Publisher has issued an attractive booklet giving full details of that Issue. Send for a copy.

SUMMARY OF THIS ISSUE.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Articles and Communications.

It is suggested that the kelp industry should be revived, but it has never died (p. 49).

The manner in which the United States Pharmacopœia is revised is illustrated in the Digest of Criticisms, upon which we comment (p. 49).

Professor W. H. Perkin's second lecture on the synthesis of the terpenes is reported fully, with a portrait of Mr. S. W. Fairchild, who was present on the occasion (p. 51).

The working of the Shops Act, tuberculin dispensaries, the evidence of Mr. Aitken and Dr. Tirard, and a qualification for chemists' assistants are the subjects of "Xrayser's" observations on p. 47.

The Home Secretary has acceded to the request of the Editor of the *C. & D.* to allow the Shops Act Section 4 notice required for exterior exhibition to be placed inside against the glass of the window. See the article on p. 48.

Official publicity in regard to the arrangements for the meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Edinburgh begins this week. On p. 39 we print a group-photograph of the Edinburgh officers of the Conference, with some advance particulars.

Fifty years ago the United Society of Chemists and Druggists was endeavouring to get for druggists exemption from jury-service. "It is clearly an act of gross injustice that the Pharmacist as a citizen should be denied a privilege which is conceded to others with less cause," said the *C. & D.* then (p. 64).

News of the Week.

Demerara has now a Medicine-stamp Act (p. 38).

The tragic deaths of two Parisian pharmacists are reported on p. 36.

Several sections of news and other matters are printed in the Coloured Supplement.

Reports of and respecting public analysts are exceptionally interesting this week (p. 34).

A Bombay magistrate has ruled that compound medicinal syrups are not chemicals (p. 38).

German medical men are trying to control the prescribing of proprietary medicines (p. 38).

The will of the late Mr. T. F. Lynch, the well-known druggists' sundriesman, is epitomised on p. 43.

Imperial participation in the revision of B.P. ointments appears to be appreciated in New South Wales (p. 36).

A consignment of two tons of metallic sodium has contributed to the wreck of a ship. See report on p. 40.

A list of the pharmacy papers communicated to the International Congress of Applied Chemistry is given on p. 50.

A curious and sarcastic discourse on the patent-medicine question and chemists *v.* doctors is communicated (pp. 60-61).

The Winter Session has finally merged into Summer Outings, several combinations of this nature being reported on pp. 53-54.

The toxicity of methyl alcohol is the subject of a note by Mr. J. P. Gilmour on p. 60. He says that methylated-spirit drinkers are not killed off quickly.

A curious Pharmacy Act case is reported from Glasgow, the defendant being a chemist and druggist who was in business before the Act, but has never registered (p. 40).

Employers and employés in the drug-trade should not delay much longer in arranging for insurance under the National Insurance Act. Particulars are given on pp. 43-44.

A hundred-pound fine has been imposed on an Irish pharmacist for having in his possession uncustomed ethyl chloride. It may be reduced to 5*l.* The circumstances are told on p. 40.

Trade and Market Matters.

An expert view on speculation in essential oils is given on p. 50.

An auction of first-hand drugs was held to-day (Thursday), but the demand, in view of the difficulty in obtaining delivery of the goods as a result of the strike, was poor, and price changes generally favoured buyers (p. 57).

The holidays and the dock strike have reduced business to negligible proportions this week. Codeine and salts are lower. Saffron, linseed oil, milk-sugar, potash prussiate are all more or less dearer. Menthol (spot), lemon oil (c.i.f.), copper sulphate, apomorphine, and turpentine are cheaper (p. 56).

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. Alfred Fisher Smith, ironmonger, of 8 to 16 High Street, Hailsham, and Tilsmore Corner, Heathfield, Waldron, has applied for a poison-licence to the East Sussex County Council.

Lightning demolished a chimney-stack at the residence of Mr. B. Deaville (of Newball & Mason), Carlton House, Pelham Road, Nottingham. Some 200 panes of glass in a conservatory adjoining the house were smashed.

At a meeting of the Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745, held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel on Tuesday evening, May 28, Brother W. Bonser Hayward, British agent for F. Varaldi, 17 Lawrence Lane, London, E.C., was consecrated Master Mason.

Foreign Goods and Trade.

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Board of Trade on Commercial Intelligence held at 7 Whitehall Gardens on May 23, among the matters considered were the collection now being made of samples of certain classes of foreign goods competing with British manufactures in the self-governing Dominions, the work of the special mission now inquiring into British trade with Central America, and the question of British participation in the proposed International Exhibition at San Francisco.

Analysts' Affairs.

All the fifteen drug-samples taken in Islington last quarter were genuine.

The Bournemouth analyst (Mr. R. A. Cripps) reports that thirty-five drug-samples were examined during 1911. The inspector remarks that in obtaining these due attention was given to "penny packet," and "penny bottle" lines. All were returned as genuine except one out of the fourteen test-samples of Gregory's powder, which was made with carbonate of magnesia. However, two compound liquorice-powder samples and four of Gregory's powder were reported as of poor or doubtful quality.

The medical officer for the City of London (Dr. W. Collingridge) states in his annual report that of forty-eight drug-samples procured at the various chemists' establishments within the City, only one was found to be deficient. This was a sample of lime-water, 15 per cent. deficient in lime. The report includes a table giving particulars of drug-adulteration in the City during the past ten years. This averages about 7 per cent., the highest being 10.6 per cent. in 1906 and the lowest nil in 1910. During the last three years the percentage of the adulteration has been well under 3 per cent.

Mr. C. E. Cassal, the Battersea analyst, has signified his willingness to accept the offer of the Joint Finance and Health Committees of Battersea Borough Council of 600*l.* per annum in lieu of his present remuneration of 700*l.* for the analysis of 1,000 samples, on the following conditions: (1) Dispense with furnishing details of the analysis of unadulterated samples, (2) to limit the quarterly reports made by him under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts to the requirements of Statutes, and (3) to pay him a fee of 2*l.* 2*s.* for each occasion on which he is required to attend the police court. The committees have approved these revised terms.

The Public Health Committee of the Lambeth Borough Council reports that the public analyst has recently analysed informal samples of eucalyptus oil, ammon. tincture of quinine (2), orange-quinine wine, Bland's pills, sweet spirit of nitre (2), comp. liquorice-powder, white-precipitate ointment, washing-soda, beeswax, turpentine, sal volatile (2), boric ointment, zinc iodine (2), lime-water, sulphur ointment, and camphorated oil, which proved genuine except the camphorated oil, which was devoid of camphor, and the lime-water was 32 per cent. deficient in lime. It is also stated that in the case of formal samples of camphorated oil and lime-water from the same vendors the oil was genuine and lime-water 12 per cent. deficient—"a quantity too small to warrant action before a magistrate." The committee also reports that

thirty-one informal samples of drugs were taken and analysed for the presence of lead, with results as follows:

Drugs	No. of Samples	No Lead Contamination	Lead Contamination (parts per million)
Carbonate of magnesium	5	2	3 (4.10.10 parts)
Oxide of magnesium	1	—	1 (4 parts).
Citrate of magnesium (effervescent)	6	3	3 (4.4.12 parts).
Bicarbonate of soda	6	6	—
Carbonate of soda	1	1	—
Epsom salts	6	3	3 (2.4.14 parts).
Seidlitz powders	6	5	1 (2 parts).
Totals	31	20	11 (2 to 14 parts).

As the usually accepted limit for lead in samples of this kind is 20 parts per million, results are considered to be satisfactory.

Manchester Notes.

More interest is being taken in the doings of the Pharmaceutical Association. Several old members attended who had previously not been to an Association meeting for some years. The Shops Act and the Insurance Act have undoubtedly been the means of bringing members into closer contact than they have ever been before.

The Manchester South Division of the British Medical Association advises its members not to supply statistics *re* tuberculosis as asked for in a letter issued by the Manchester medical officer on May 21. The reason given is the increasing number of gratuitous calls made upon medical men for local and national purposes and the harsh treatment accorded to the profession by those responsible for the National Insurance Act.

The meeting of the local Association at the Victoria Hotel on May 22 was convened for the discussion of the formation of a branch of the Chemists' Friendly Society. It proved a great success, even if strong criticism was made by some members of the Assistants' Association. The assistants apparently object strongly to the resolution passed at the meeting. From their manner the Association would seem to be out for better representation, but they must first become more numerous.

Contracts.

Finchley Urban District Council.—The Sanitas Co., Ltd., and Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., for annual supplies of disinfectants.

Stockport Guardians.—C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester, for three water-pillows and three circular water-cushions at 3*s.* 8*d.* per lb.

The Yarmouth Guardians considered on May 28 the report of the committee deputed to make the arrangements with chemists for the supply of medicines (*C. & D.*, May 18, index folio 707). Replies had been received from four chemists. Mr. H. E. Goddard wrote that he did not intend to tender. Mr. T. J. Woodcock, Messrs. Steward & Sons, and Messrs. W. S. Poll & Son replied that with the information before them they were not in a position to quote. The committee thereupon recommended the rescinding of the previous decision, and that the Board revert to the old practice of the medical officer supplying drugs and medicines. This produced a lively discussion, in the course of which Mr. F. P. Hill said the chemists were invited to contract on the same terms as Mr. P. R. Hill, who supplied medicines at Gorleston at 6*d.* per bottle and at 10 per cent. on any special drugs required. This meant that the chemist determined what were special and what ordinary drugs. He considered such a contract unbusinesslike. It was finally decided that the matter be reconsidered by the committee.

From Various Courts.

At Burnley Quarter Sessions on May 24, Jesse Wm. Chandler (34), labourer, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment for deliberately smashing the plate-glass window at the pharmacy of Mr. C. E. Dodsley, chemist and druggist, 6A Hargreaves Street, Burnley. The damage done amounted to 15*l.*

At the Llandudno Police Court last week, a gipsy, named Solomon Taylor, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for stealing a box of tableds, the property of Mr. J. Winter, chemist,

Craigydun, Llandudno. Prisoner called at Mr. Winter's pharmacy ostensibly to sell boot-laces.

At the resumed inquest at Ilkeston on the nine-month-old child of Arthur Henry Bostock, miner (*C. & D.*, May 4, index folio 632), Mr. S. Russell Trotman, the Nottingham city analyst, deposed that his analysis showed no trace of poison in deceased's stomach. The powders contained 0.3 grain of calomel and a very small trace of antimony. These drugs were used considerably in certain kinds of medicine. He could not connect anything found in the powders with the child's death. Dr. Roach said the infant had been doomed from birth. He had not made a complete study of powders, and his casual statement was made from what he had read. The convulsions might possibly have been brought on by something else. The jury returned a verdict that death was due to convulsions, but there was no evidence to show how they were caused. They added a rider expressing an opinion that at present there was no proper supervision over the sale of powders for children.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Though keeping open their establishments, the chemists of Londonderry have arranged to give their assistants the statutory half-holiday on Thursday.

Mr. Patrick Mallon, Ph.C., will shortly open a pharmacy at Hill Street, Newry. Mr. Mallon was for some time with Messrs. O'Hagan & O'Hare, of Newry.

Mr. W. J. Rankin, Hon. Secretary of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland, was one of the superintendents in connection with the Annual Hospital Saturday, Belfast, on May 25.

Mr. James Blair, who for many years was the principal assistant to the late Mr. John Mortimer, has taken over the business of Messrs. John Mortimer & Co., wholesale and retail druggists, etc., William Street, Londonderry.

At Ennis on May 25, Henry Parkinson, assistant at Gilbert's Medical Hall, Ennis, was charged with the larceny of about 10*l.* and a kit-bag, the property of his employer. Defendant was remanded on bail for a week.

Mr. R. D. Chapman, R.D., presided at a meeting of the traders of Donegal to consider the half-holiday question, and it was decided to take a ballot as to the most suitable day. The Shops Act does not apply to the town.

Mr. G. D. Beggs, J.P., Ph.C., Dalkey, has been elected by the Dalkey Urban Council to represent the Council on the Joint Hospital Board, and has been appointed by the Hospital Board a member of the Committee of Management.

Sir Wm. J. Baxter, D.L., President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, extended a welcome to the members of the Irish Congregational Union on their assembling for their annual conference in Coleraine last week.

Mr. A. Costlere, chemist, Athlone, was, at the Castlereagh Quarter Sessions on May 25, awarded 4*l.* against the Midland Great Western Railway for non-delivery of a consignment of empties to Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, wholesale druggists, Dublin. Judge Wakely gave some amusing experiences of the dilatoriness of Irish railways.

Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson, Ltd., chemists, Dublin, have instituted a system of free gifts to customers. Last week's awards consisted of a plated bon-bon dish to every buyer of a given amount of goods, to mark the introduction of the agency which the company have taken over for the sale of the products of the United Drug Company, Boston. "Truth" refers to the matter this week.

Mr. J. D. Carse, registered druggist, 253 Woodstock Road, Belfast, in view of the *Titanic* disaster, calls our attention to his forecast that there would be an abnormal amount of ice in the Atlantic following the earthquake-shocks of last year (*C. & D.*, July 1, 1911, index

folio 5). "The reason the icebergs did not appear sooner was," writes Mr. Carse, "owing to the excessively hot summer which melted the advanced ones, thereby acting on the Gulf Stream and causing us to have in the end of last year and the beginning of this one a record fall of rain."

Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture, received a deputation from the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society regarding the Irish Creameries and Dairy Produce Bill which is now before Parliament. Clause 3 (3) requires that premises cannot be registered under the Bill unless they communicate with a public street or road, and the Society asked that this should not apply to agricultural organisations which sell sheep-dip, weed-killers, and spraying-materials. Mr. Russell said there was nothing in the Bill to prevent these things being sold in separate establishments, and he would not be a party to allowing them to be sold in creameries.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Miss Ann F. C. Thoms, chemist and druggist, formerly of Dundee, commenced business in Coupar-Angus "at noon on Tuesday, May 28."

A fire occurred in the shop of Mr. H. Thompson, chemist and druggist, 46 Commerce Street, Aberdeen, on May 22, through a shop-boy dropping a lighted match into some straw. The damage done was not great.

Edinburgh

Messrs. James Scobie & Son's old premises in Shandwick Place are to let.

Mr. Fred. Stephenson, whose approaching retirement was mentioned in the *C. & D.* some time ago, closed his pharmacy in Howe Street this week.

A strenuous pharmaceutical controversy is being waged in the local papers at present, mostly in connection with the Shops Act. Mr. Graham Davidson is one of the letter-writers, and a reply to him was contributed by a writer who signed his letter "Bile Beans."

At the recent Dioptric examinations of the British Optical Association Mr. W. C. Henderson, 61 Spottiswoode Street, Mr. Robert Lawrence, 40 Strathearn Road, and Mr. J. H. Thomson, 9 Murieston Crescent, chemists, were successful in obtaining the Association's diploma.

Over a thousand lots of books, etc., the property of the late Mr. John S. Gibb (father of Mr. J. P. Gibb, of Raimes, Clark & Co., Ltd.), were sold in Dowell's Rooms last week. A feature of the sale was the large number of old Bibles (sixteenth and seventeenth century) offered.

Glasgow and the West.

Photographic goods are now in great demand, thanks to the fine weather and the half-holiday.

The stock and fittings of the shops in Cathcart Street, Greenock, and Princes Street, Port Glasgow, belonging to the trustees of Mr. A. H. McNaught, chemist, were sold by auction last week. Prices were very low, and the stock was early sold out.

Mr. W. C. Anderson's many Glasgow friends are pleased to hear of his election to the chairmanship of the Labour party for the third year. About eight years ago he was an assistant with the late Mr. John McMillan, chemist, St. George's Cross. He is a native of Cornhill, Banff.

Within a radius of about a mile in the West End of Glasgow there are eight chemists with night-bells on their premises. This can scarcely be called a necessity, and it is now felt that steps should be taken to stop West-enders from the practice of unnecessary shopping at midnight.

SIBERIAN SALTPETRE.—Large deposits of saltpetre located on Cabinet land near the village of Doroninskaia in the Nerchinsk mining district, Siberia, are being examined by the chief chemist of the district and five English chemists, the latter representing an English syndicate for working the deposits.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF A PHARMACIST.—On Wednesday morning, May 29, a pharmacist, M. Mabile, in business in the Opera Quarter of Paris, was found dead in the flat of a midwife named Mme. Barlet, at 112 Rue Réaumur, with whom he was in business relations. The latter had also expired in the same room. Death in both cases seems to have been due to poisoning, as there were no marks on the bodies and no signs of asphyxiation. There is no apparent reason for M. Mabile's sudden decease, neither for his presence in Mme. Barlet's home. He was thirty-five years of age and married.

MOTOR-CAR ACCIDENT.—A Paris pharmacist, M. Brunelet, was the victim of a motor-car accident on Tuesday morning, May 28. He was driving his motor-car, in which were also his wife and family, through the Forest of Senart, on the way back to Paris, when, as he was passing three heavy waggons, another motor-car suddenly appeared from behind them, and a violent collision followed between the two cars. One car was thrown against a tree, while M. Brunelet's machine went on twenty yards further and collided with a second motor-car coming in the opposite direction, the pharmacist's car being overturned. Some of the occupants of the cars were badly hurt, and Mme. Brunelet had her skull fractured, but fortunately no one was killed. These collisions occurred just at the spot where the all too famous motor-car bandits killed the chauffeur of a motor-car and went off with the machine to commit their fearful outrage at the Chantilly Bank.

HE KNEW HE WAS RIGHT.—The subject of packing goods for railway transport was under discussion at a recent meeting of retailers. The French railway companies constantly refuse to pay, "on account of insufficient packing," for goods not sufficiently enveloped to withstand the efforts of their robust and experienced "baggage-smashers." The refusals are often quite illegal, but a tradesman naturally hesitates to go to law with a wealthy company. Another and equally abusive practice is to issue printed instructions to station officials to refuse certain classes of packing as insufficient. This was done some time ago with regard to corrugated cardboard. Most tradesmen accepted the fiat of the companies, but one bold pharmacist persisted in handing in goods thus packed. The company refused to accept. The pharmacist refused in his turn to take them back, and engaged a lawyer to bear witness that the packing was in perfect state. The affair was handed over to an expert for arbitration (it is the "usual commercial practice" which decides these questions). Finally the company, to avoid a long lawsuit, paid the pharmacist. But how many have the courage to go and do likewise?

ORIGIN OF REFRIGERATING MACHINES.—The Paris "Figaro" publishes an interview with M. Charles Tellier, who constructed the first refrigerating apparatus in 1868. The origin of his invention was a pleasantry of Baron Haussmann, the Prefect who transformed Paris into a modern city. Tellier had submitted to him some scheme for weaving-machinery during the dog-days, and Haussmann remarked that if he were anxious to invent something, he had "better design an ice-making machine, for now or never is the time." Tellier studied and experimented, succeeded in keeping meat perfectly fresh for a month, and received encouragement from M. de Germiny, a well-known financier. "Go ahead," said the latter; "we will float a company, and the Emperor will be our first shareholder." Tellier bought land, constructed works, and just then the war of 1870 broke out. The Emperor became a prisoner of war in Germany, M. de Germiny died, and Tellier lost every penny he had. The war over, he tried for years to enlist the sympathy and assistance of the French Academy of Sciences; but received nothing but Platonic support. He finally advertised for subscriptions for "an affair capable of realising substantial profits," and thus raised 24,000*l.* In September 1876 he bought and fitted up the first vessel designed for cold-storage transit, the *Frigorifique*, and

shipped a cargo of freshly killed meat from Rouen to La Plata, where it was disembarked, after a voyage of 105 days, in perfect condition. The idea "caught on," but not in France. The first English vessel was built in 1880; and M. Tellier said, "four-fifths of the existing cold-storage apparatus is now constructed on the principle I carried out in 1876." Tellier himself did not profit by his invention. He lives in a small apartment at Auteuil (Paris), a little white-bearded old man of eighty-five; somewhat soured by his life's disappointment, but still haunted by dreams of some great invention, his latest idea being "motor power without fuel," of which he believes he has found the secret.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

New South Wales.

A VETERINARY SURGEONS' REGISTRATION BILL was introduced into the New South Wales House of Assembly on March 27. The Victorian Veterinary Surgeons Act was passed in 1909. In Western Australia a similar Bill was passed during the last session of Parliament, but was thrown out in Queensland. In no other State of Australia has any attempt been made to secure legislation.

B.P. OINTMENTS.—At the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society on April 16 a committee, consisting of Messrs. Short, Loney, and Sharpe, was appointed to conduct experiments with the ointment-base suggested by Mr. E. W. Lucas in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, February 17, index folio 262. Mr. Short said this was a distinct and novel movement. It was of very great advantage that the suggestion with regard to the B.P. ointments should be carried out.

PHARMACY BOARD.—At the meeting held in Sydney on April 16 a letter was read from the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand accepting reciprocity with New South Wales on the whole register basis up to a certain date, and thereafter on an examination basis. Regulations, agreements, and other necessary documents are being prepared, and are to be forwarded in due course. The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain acknowledged the receipt of the letter from the Board on the reciprocity question. Mr. Henry Macauley (Ph.C. Ireland) and Mr. Andrew Sloane (Ph.C. Great Britain) were registered under the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts.

New Zealand.

OTAGO PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.—The committee met on February 23 and considered a request from the Secretary of the New Zealand Chemists' Federation as to the desirability of holding a conference of New Zealand chemists in conjunction with the Pharmacy Board Conference, which took place on March 14. The committee decided that as the Pharmacy Board's programme absorbed the principal subjects, it could not favour a conference of chemists to be held in Wellington this year. The committee resolved that the Otago members of the Board be requested to obtain the official recognition of the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand to the classes now being conducted under the auspices of the Association, so that future chemists by examination may not be disfranchised in respect to Imperial reciprocity of certificates. A resolution was also passed that the Association would appreciate an attempt of the New Zealand Pharmacy Board to have the certificates of all New Zealand chemists by examination recognised by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Tasmania.

SHOPS CLOSING ACT.—The first prosecution under this Act took place at Hobart on March 8, when Messrs. Palfreyman & Fitzgerald, chemists, Elizabeth Street, were charged with keeping their shop open after 6 p.m. on four days during the week beginning February 13. It was claimed that defendants came under the provisions relating

to small shops where no assistant was kept. William Mason, who was an assistant at the shop, was placed under new conditions in January, which it was contended took him out of the definition of shop-assistant. Judgment was given on April 1, when the Magistrate dismissed the case. He said the Act does not state that the closing at 6 p.m. on four week-days is to be in each week, nor does the section mention for how long the shop is to be closed. This being a penal statute, he could not read words into the Act. Defendants asked for costs, but the Magistrate would not grant those, having regard to the evidence of the defendants that they changed the style of their assistant to messenger and bottle-washer as soon as the Act came into operation.

Victoria.

MR. JAMES BRINSMEAD, J.P., is leaving for a tour of Great Britain, the Continent, and the United States. On April 15 his brother justices on the Malvern Bench wished him a pleasant voyage.

PHARMACY BOARD.—The annual report mentions that for the final qualifying examination there were twenty-nine candidates during 1911, of whom twenty-one passed. The expenditure of the Board was 591*l.* and the receipts 632*l.*

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Cape Province.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Astell J. Willson, representative of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., was in Cape Town when the mail left.

TRADE-MARKS. — The Pyramiden-Fliegenfänger-Fabrik, Zeitz, Germany, is applying to register the trade-mark "Pyramid" (*i.e.*, a picture of same) in respect of fly-catchers, Class 50.

CONTRACTS.—Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., Ltd., and Petersen, Ltd., both of Cape Town, have secured contracts for the supply of medicines and provisions to the Robben Island Leprosy Location, Valkenburg Asylum, Old Somerset Hospital, and the Oude Molen Relief Camp.

LEASING DOCK-SPACE.—The Cape Town Chamber of Commerce on May 6 again passed a resolution similar to that of December 12, 1910, in which it is stated that it is not advisable, in view of the restricted area of the docks, for the Government to lease space to individuals for industrial or manufacturing purposes.

THE EIGHT-STOREY BUILDING which the Chamberlain Medicine Co., Des Moines, Iowa, U.S.A., is erecting at Woodstock, near Cape Town, is now nearing completion. The firm intend to manufacture their specialities in South Africa, doing their printing also on the spot. Mr. D. S. Chamberlain, who has been in South Africa for some considerable time, contemplated leaving about May 25.

THE MEDICAL COURT was a special feature at a South African Missionary Exhibition held in the Good Hope Hall, Cape Town, from April 29 to May 4. Messrs. Petersen, Ltd., had arranged this to represent a missionary hospital. It was divided into three sections—*viz.*, the patients' waiting-room; the consulting-room, containing a full dispensing outfit as well as an operating table and range of surgical instruments; and the third section representative of a small hospital.

THE UNION PARLIAMENT at present in session at Cape Town has its hands full. Apart from the ordinary legislative business of so vast a continent, the question of tuberculosis is occupying no small amount of attention, as is the Defence Bill. In the latter Bill it has not yet been definitely decided as to whether medical men and chemists will be forced, under ordinary circumstances, to undergo military training. In war times medical men have always taken their full share of the hardships and duties. Chemists, it is assumed, will be allotted the Red Cross

service, but handling a gun in the defence of the country would be no new thing to many of them.

Orange Free State.

ARSENICAL DIPPING-SOLUTIONS.—Regulations with regard to the strength of arsenical solutions to be used for dipping are contained in a recent Government Gazette.

PERSONAL.—Mr. S. Taylor, manager of Dr. Floekeman's dispensary at Bloemfontein, and a former President and Secretary of the O.F.S. Pharmaceutical Society, left for England on May 8, accompanied by his family, for a well-earned six months' holiday.—Mr. J. A. Dinwoodie, chemist and druggist, dispenser to the Railway Department at Bloemfontein, left for Scotland on May 1 on six months' leave. He was entertained to a farewell smoking-concert at the Grand Hotel just before leaving, at which there was a large attendance.

Transvaal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. A. E. Adams, Ph.C., who has recently relinquished the position as managing director of Messrs. Loewenstein, Adams & Co., Ltd., wholesale and retail chemists, Johannesburg, has left the Rand on a visit to England.—Mr. Lewis, representing S. Maw, Son & Sons, was in Johannesburg when the mail left.

TRANSVAAL CHEMISTS' ATHLETIC CLUB.—At the third annual general meeting, held at the Grand National Hotel, Johannesburg, on May 25, Mr. J. S. Sanderson presided over an attendance of about sixty members. The financial report shows that the club is in a strong financial position, the credit balance at the bank being 30*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, while there is a total credit balance of 78*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* The social events were on the whole successful, the second dance being also a financial aid. The various sections had taken part in good competitions, the tennis section having now a large membership. The election of officers resulted as follows: *Hon. President*, Mr. W. Easterbrook; *President*, Mr. J. Christie, Fordsburg; *Vice-President*, Mr. H. Wheildon; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. R. A. King; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. B. Wheatley; *Assistant Hon. Secretary*, Mr. W. C. Taylor; *Committee*, Messrs. W. B. Marshall, J. S. Sanderson, I. P. Jones, H. Hetherington, W. H. Cross, L. E. West, and J. M. Anderson. Prizes were presented to the successful competitors in the club's sporting sections. Mr. Keir, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman and committee, emphasised the splendid work they had rendered the club during the past year. A hearty vote of thanks was also accorded to the following donors of prizes: Messrs. Lennon, Ltd., Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Transvaal Drug Co., Sive Bros. & Karnovsky, G. B. Kent & Sons, and C. Gerrish. The committee presented a watch and bangle to Miss Marshall in recognition of her services to the club.

Cape Province Pharmaceutical Society.

THE BI-MONTHLY MEETING of this Society was held on April 25, the chair being taken by the President, Mr. J. Austin Thomas. Among those present were Messrs. F. C. Mathew, W. A. Sleggs, Aitken, Fick, Patterson, Merry, G. R. Clegghorn, J. Sowden, Tothill, and J. Sloan (*Hon. Secretary*).

DISPENSING TARIFF.—The committee which had been appointed to meet the delegates of the Friendly Societies re a settlement of the outstanding differences regarding the tariff for dispensing reported that a compromise had at last been arrived at. Chemists were to receive 1*s.* for each prescription, except those containing extraordinarily expensive ingredients, and members of the Friendly Societies could deal with any chemist they chose.

ANNUAL DINNER.—After some discussion, it was decided to hold the Society's annual dinner at the Royal Hotel, Cape Town, on May 16.

METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—The Secretary announced that the Society had been unofficially informed that the Minister of Commerce had decided to eliminate the clause from his Bill providing that chemists must use the metric system.

P.A.T.A. AND C.D.A.—It was suggested that a Proprietary Articles Trade Association should be formed by the local chemists. After some discussion, it was resolved to write to the Secretary of the P.A.T.A. in England asking for copies of their rules, etc., and that when they were received the matter should again be discussed by the Society. The rules of the Chemists' Defence Fund were discussed, and several new members enrolled.

DEMERARA DOINGS.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—The firm of Messrs. Smart, Dalgleish & Co., Ltd., at an extraordinary meeting held last month, decided to alter their title; it now goes under the name of Brodie & Rainer, Ltd.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Thomas, who has occupied the post of chief dispenser at the Colonial Hospital, Georgetown, for the last two years, has resigned. He left for the Homeland by the s.s. *Imataka* on May 8. His successor is expected at an early date.

MESSRS. BOOKER BROS., MCCONNELL & CO., LTD., have enlarged the drug-department at their head store in Water Street, which was opened just over a year ago, by purchasing the premises lately occupied by Messrs. J. D. Alty & Co. This is one of the oldest chemist's shops in the colony. The interior of the store has been refitted, and business was begun there on May 1.

May 1 was a day that will long be remembered by the drug fraternity in Demerara. On that date the new Medicine-stamp Act came into force. Its far-reaching effects on the trade in proprietary remedies are already apparent. Patent or proprietary medicines without the formula being given pay for every 32 cents value an 8-cent stamp; above 32 cents and under 64 cents, the stamp-duty is 16 cents; and so on, rising by 8 cents duty for every 32 cents increase in value. When the formula is given the duty is half the above. This tax in no way alters the Customs duties which are levied on this class of goods, some of which pay a high spirit-duty.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

THE DEATH, from typhus, is reported of Mr. Tymstra, of the Bandong Quinine Factory, who was well known in the Java sporting world.

COCAINE IN CEYLON.—The Ceylon Government has appointed a committee to decide what steps should be taken to arrest the abuse of cocaine in Ceylon. This step is supposed to have been taken in view of the reports that the drug is being largely smuggled into India from Ceylon.

SOAP TRADE-MARK CASES.—Several cases have been heard in the Bombay Court by the Chief Presidency Magistrate in which the makers of "Salutis" soap have taken proceedings against firms for importing and selling "Saturnus" soap, which they allege to be a colourable imitation of "Salutis." The Judge upheld this contention, and in two instances the accused were discharged, the labels and wrappers of the soap being destroyed.

OPIUM TRADE IN CHINA.—The Peking correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" reports that a very stringent Anti-Opium Bill is before the Advisory Council, the object of which is the total suppression of the drug before December 31. Clandestine crops are to be immediately uprooted, all the opium-dealers' books are to be inspected, and the stocks carefully controlled, any balance remaining at the end of the year to be destroyed. The heaviest penalties are provided for infringements of the law. It is feared that the workability of the Bill will be frustrated by the dealers in Indian opium, whose accumulated stocks at Shanghai are valued at 6,000,000, and those at Hong-Kong at 4,000,000. The Indian merchants have the right, under the Opium Agreement of last year, to dispose of their stock in the interior of China, but it is said they are prevented from doing so by the obstruction of Chinese officials.

DRUGS OR CHEMICALS.—A case of particular interest to Indian vendors of medical preparations was concluded before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay, on May 3, when Mr. P. Chakervarty, proprietor of the National Agency, Kalbadevi Road, was charged by the Municipality under Section 394 of the Bombay Municipal Act of 1888, with keeping chemicals without a licence from the Commissioner. The articles in question are products of the Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works,

Ltd., Calcutta, and are advertised in a catalogue published by that concern. The complainants placed special reliance on the following to support their claim: Syrup, ferri phosph. co., syrup, hypophosph. co., and tonic glycerophosphates. The defendant, who conducted his own case, claimed that these and the other preparations in the price-list were not chemicals, and wished to be satisfied as to the definition of the word. He referred to the Indian Tariff Act, where the articles at issue were not placed under the head of chemicals, and he named the manufacturers, as his authority for declaring they were not chemicals. As this authority could not be accepted, he agreed to the matter being referred to the Government Analyst (Major Dickinson), who was also examined as a witness. The Major said he should call these articles drugs, and not chemicals. The Magistrate agreed with this view, and discharged the accused.

OUR GERMAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Manufacture of Cat-gut.—The "Pharmazeutische Zeitung" recently called attention to the manufacture of cat-gut in Prussia, and stated that many cases of tetanus had been traced to the use of unpurified cat-gut. In consequence the factories are to be inspected twice a year by the medical inspector of the district in which they are.

The Patent-medicine Inquiry in London is attracting attention in Germany. Here (writes our correspondent), synthetic compounds play an important rôle in therapeutics, and German pharmaceutical industry has attained eminence in their production, owing in great part to the active co-operation of leading clinicians and pharmacologists. Thus the German practitioner enters on his professional career already convinced by his professors that the use of certain synthetics is indicated in the treatment of various conditions. Further, modern pharmacy has elaborated a number of galenic preparations which either offer a distinct convenience in prescribing or mark an advance on similar preparations already in general use, and the "lost art of prescribing" accounts for the introduction of many other compounds. It is particularly against this class of preparations, recommended directly to the doctors and not to the general public, that the medical profession has in some instances taken a decided course of action. In some cases this is effected by the exclusion of advertisements of preparations to which the editor of a medical journal takes exception and sees fit to exercise his discretion.

German Doctors are about to imitate the example set by the American Medical Association, which, substantially, approves or disapproves of new remedies, and advises its members accordingly. At the last Congress of Internal Medicine, which meets annually at Wiesbaden, the committee submitted a proposal designed to protect doctors and patients from errors likely to arise through the statements made in advertisements of remedies. The advertisement-pages of the medical journals of the past year were subjected to strict investigation, with the result that the preparations advertised were divided into three groups. The first group contained those advertisements which conformed with the following requirements: Publication of the formula with full particulars of the ingredients, or chemical formula and scientific name; uniformity of composition of various samples found on the market; did not contain misleading statements regarding origin, mode of preparation, or composition of the product; did not refer to known compounds advertised under a new name; absence of misleading statements regarding therapeutic efficacy or harmlessness; advertisements of preparations the sale of which was against the interests of the patients. The second group enumerated those advertisements of preparations which did not fully comply with the above requirements; in this list figure, *inter alia*, Angier's Emulsion, Bromidia, and Caligif. The third group was formed of advertisements of preparations regarding which a correct judgment of their compliance with the foregoing standards could not be arrived at without thorough investigation by the committee; in this list are included Bi-nalatinoids, Casarea Evacuans, Liquor Sedans, Valentine's Meat-juice, and Brand's Meat-essence. In its report the Commission lays stress on the fact that it does not intend to express an opinion on the value, or absence of value, of the remedies classified on this basis. It was only drawn up for the purpose of considering whether the contents and setting of these advertisements were consistent with the present position of medical science, and with the views generally adopted by the medical profession.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

THE third meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Edinburgh will open on Monday evening, July 29, when the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council will receive the members in the City Chambers. The sessions of the Conference will begin on the Tuesday morning at a quarter to ten, under the presidency of Sir Edward Evans, J.P., of Liverpool, and on each succeeding day until August 2 there will be something of interest for everybody connected with the Conference; but business will be barred at 3.30 on Wednesday afternoon: then, all will give themselves entirely to pleasure.

The forthcoming programme promises one of the most enjoyable weeks the Conference has ever had in Scotland or elsewhere. The first meeting in Edinburgh was held in 1871, Mr. W. W. Stoddart, of Bristol, being the President, and the second was in 1892, when Mr. E. C. C. Stanford

In view of the fact that the Conference headquarters are to be the Edinburgh University Union, which is virtually a private club, the business part of the week promises to be done under the most pleasant conditions which the Conference has experienced. The members of committees who are arranging the social part are, besides those already named, Mrs. A. Aitken, Mrs. Bayne, Mrs. Bliss, Mrs. Bristowe Care, Mrs. Inglis Clark, Mrs. Coats, Mrs. Coull, Mrs. Cowie, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. R. L. Hendry, Mrs. C. F. Henry, Mrs. Merson, Mrs. Rowland, Miss Boa, Miss Brew, Miss Dick, Miss Dott, and Miss Glass on the *Ladies' Committee*, while on the *Local Committee*, besides the above-named officers, are Messrs. Thos. Bayne, Peter Boa, Ph.C., J. Brown (Melrose), H. Bristowe Care, W. Inglis Clark, D.Sc., Ph.C., F.R.S.E., George Coull, D.Sc., Ph.C., W. B. Cowie, F.C.S., Arch. Currie, Ph.C., D. B. Dott, F.I.C., F.R.S.E., W. Duncan, F.C.S., J. A. Forret, J. P. Gibb, D. Gilmour (Dunfermline), W. S. Glass, Ph.C., J. R.



Edinburgh Officers of the Conference.

occupied the chair. The pleasant features of both of these meetings will be recalled this year, for an exceptionally strong local committee has been formed, with Mr. J. L. Ewing, J.P., as Chairman (the second time he has done this duty); Mr. Robert Aitken, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Thomas Stephenson, F.R.S.E., Secretary; and Mr. George Somerville as Treasurer. Other pharmacists who are taking leading offices are Mr. G. H. C. Rowland, Assistant Secretary; Mr. D. Rainy Brown, F.R.S.E., Convener Excursions Sub-Committee; Mr. A. J. Dey, Convener Sessions Sub-Committee; Mr. Andrew Hunter, Convener Ladies' Advisory Sub-Committee; and Mr. D. W. Nicolson, Convener Entertainments Sub-Committee. A strong Ladies' Committee has also been formed, with Mrs. Laidlaw Ewing as Chairman, Mrs. Rainy Brown as Vice-Chairman, and Mrs. Blenkiron as Secretary. The group photograph of these officers has been taken by Mr. A. Swan Watson, Brunsfield Links, Edinburgh, for THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and we append the names:

Front Row (left to right): Mr. Stephenson, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Ewing, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Aitken, Mrs. Blenkiron.
Back Row (left to right): Mr. Dey, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Somerville, Mr. Nicolson, Mr. Rowland,

Harkness, J. S. B. Heddle, R. L. Hendry, C. F. Henry, J. Rutherford Hill, Ph.C., Geo. Lunan, F.C.S., G. F. Merson, F.C.S., John Muir, Jas. Nesbit, A. K. Stewart, Jas. Stott, J. Tait, Ph.C., and G. Victor Wright.

Ample arrangements have been made for hotel and boarding-house accommodation, a printed list having been prepared giving particulars and charges. A copy of this list can be obtained on application to the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. Thos. Stephenson, 137 George Street, Edinburgh. The "Pink Circular" in an artistic blue cover is to be posted to members this week. The cover bears a silhouette design of Edinburgh Castle, and the pink pages within are devoted to information regarding the local arrangements.

This year's President is one of the keenest golfers in the British drug-trade. A caddie-bag is usually a part of his Conference luggage, and will be on this occasion, for special golfing arrangements are being made. These are under the charge of Mr. G. F. Merson, F.C.S., c/o Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., Abbeyhill, Edinburgh, who will be pleased to hear from any visiting member who is a golfer. An all-day programme is being arranged for the Friday, and other opportunities for play will be devised.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Selling Spectacles.—At Pocklington on May 23, Henry Atkinson was committed for trial on charges of obtaining money by false pretences in connection with the sale of spectacles. It was stated that the accused traded in New Street, York, as the Northern Counties Optical Co., and one witness, a widow named Mary Swann, deposed that he told her that in July a law would be passed so that chemists could not sell spectacles. She paid him a guinea for a pair of spectacles, and those supplied were stated by Dr. Fairweather to be worth only about 2s. 6d.

Uncustomed Ethyl Chloride.—At Skibbereen Petty Sessions on May 23, Mr. John Copithorne, Ph.C., the Medical Hall, Skibbereen, was charged by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise with harbouring and concealing 1½ gal. of ethyl chloride. Dr. Wynne, for the prosecution, said the ethyl chloride was part of a consignment that had been washed ashore round the coast from a vessel wrecked in the Bay of Biscay. The duty on ethyl chloride, 30s. per gal., had not been paid. A Customs officer stated that Mr. Copithorne told him that he bought the tubes of "perfume" from some girls named Cadogan, who gave him to understand that the matter had been reported to the coastguards. Witness said that Mr. Copithorne gave him every assistance in discovering the ethyl chloride, and he told him he was satisfied that defendant was innocent. Another Customs officer said the value of the ethyl chloride, including the duty, was about 10l. Mr. J. F. Halpin, an analyst from the Government Laboratory, said that the ethyl chloride contained 1 per cent. of perfume. For the defence, it was urged that the charge of concealing could not be sustained, as the goods had been openly dealt with in the neighbourhood. There was, moreover, no market for perfumed ethyl chloride in the United Kingdom. The Magistrates imposed a fine of 100l., with a recommendation that the Commissioners of Customs and Excise reduce it to 5l.

Sodium on Shipboard.—In the course of a Board of Trade report on the loss of the s.s. *Hardy* on December 11, 1911, Major A. Cooper-Key, Inspector of Explosives, describes in detail the cause of the loss, referring especially to 2 tons of metallic sodium which was stowed on deck. During a heavy sea one or more of the cases of sodium broke open, and as soon as the metal came in contact with the water explosion and fire took place; ultimately a tremendous explosion occurred which cut the vessel in two. The cargo consisted partly of potassium chlorate and of tallow. The inspector is of opinion that the method of packing the sodium, in view of the fact that it was to be stowed on deck, was quite inadequate; that having regard to the contents of the hold, it was ill-advised to stow on the hatchway a large quantity of a material which, from the instructions as to stowage on deck, was presumably dangerous owing to its inflammable properties; that the cases should have been stowed in several lots and secured with wire ropes. When properly packed and carried below deck with simple precautions against shifting, metallic sodium may safely be conveyed by sea. He adds that the cases were sufficiently marked and new, but not sufficiently strong to withstand rough usage and rough weather. The cause of the explosions and fire was the violent decomposition of water in contact with metallic sodium and the ignition of the hydrogen by the heat evolved. The actual loss of the vessel was probably due to the explosion of a mixture of potassium chlorate and tallow or other combustible material in the hold.

High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

SKIN AND FACE SPECIALISTS AT LAW.

In the Chancery Division on May 24, Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady had before him the action of Hendriks v. Forsythe.

Mr. F. Russell, K.C., on behalf of the plaintiff, said he was a gentleman who had carried on the business, as he alleged, for ten years in partnership with the defendant, who was a lady, formerly a barmaid in the Strand. They had carried on the business in two departments. One, presided over by the lady, involved the facial massage, and the other was used by the plaintiff for the manufacture, mixing, and retailing of various lotions, creams, etc., which involved skill. The plaintiff said he was a partner, but that was denied by the defendant, who said he was only a manager. That question, said

counsel, was essentially one for the trial of the action; but in the meantime the plaintiff wished for the appointment of a receiver and manager in order that the assets of the business might be preserved.

Mr. Pollock, K.C., for the defendant, said he was willing to do anything provided that the plaintiff did not attend the premises. He had made the situation quite impossible for the lady, who was the person who actually carried on the business. The plaintiff was simply a manager, and the work in which real skill was required was done by the lady. He thought it was a case which would be far better dealt with by arbitration. Proper receipts and accounts ought to be kept, and he was willing to do that, and also to make certain payments to the plaintiff to keep matters *in statu quo*.

Mr. Russell: The plaintiff has been receiving 80l. per month, in addition to other sums. One of our complaints is that he has been excluded from his branch of the business.

Mr. Pollock: Let it go to arbitration, and we will pay him 20l. per week until the hearing. The defendant will keep full accounts, but it is quite impossible for the parties to go on, on the present basis.

His Lordship: Would there be any difficulty in manufacturing these cosmetics, etc., elsewhere?

Mr. Russell: It would mean new premises and a new laboratory.

His Lordship: The plaintiff is alleging a partnership. Is there a deed?

Mr. Russell: No.

His Lordship: One can see that the further they are apart the greater the comfort for each of them. According to the evidence, the business can go on without him.

After further discussion, his Lordship, by consent of the parties, appointed Mr. Edward Davies, of the firm of Deloitte, Plender, Griffiths & Co., to be receiver and manager until further order. He would be at liberty to employ the defendant as sub-manager, and to employ the plaintiff away from the business premises. The receiver would pay the plaintiff 20l. per week, and all further proceedings would be stayed, and the costs would be costs in the action.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

IN BUSINESS BEFORE THE ACT.

Before Sheriff Boyd in the County Buildings, Glasgow, on Friday, May 24, Robert Wilson was charged, at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society, with having on April 27 in his shop at 353 Garscube Road, Glasgow, sold to Mr. Rutherford Hill a quantity of morphine which formed an ingredient in a quantity of chlorodyne, he not being a duly registered chemist, and, further, on a printed label placed upon the bottle he used the title of "Chemist and Druggist" after his name, and that the title "Dispensing Chemist" appeared in the window of his shop.

Respondent pleaded guilty.

Mr. Martin, solicitor, who prosecuted for the Society, said that Wilson had gone on for years evading the law, and had been warned by Mr. Hill.

On behalf of respondent, Mr. Stewart, solicitor, said the case was quite a unique one. His client commenced business as a chemist and druggist in Larkhall in 1867, a year before the passing into law of the Pharmacy Act. He remained in Larkhall for seven years, and then removed to Glasgow, where he had carried on business ever since. He was entitled to registration as a chemist and druggist by the very fact that he had carried on business prior to 1868. All he had to do was to apply for registration, but he had not done so. No complaint against him had been made until May of last year, when Mr. Hill informed him that he was not a qualified chemist and druggist on the Register in terms of the Pharmacy Act. It was then, quite impossible for Wilson to get himself registered, on account of the fact that he required to make a declaration before a duly qualified medical man or magistrate who was in business or in office prior to 1868, and he could not find one.

His Lordship: Has he tried to discover one?—Mr. Stewart: Yes.

His Lordship (to respondent): What efforts have you made?—Respondent: All the people I knew who could sign the certificate are dead.

His Lordship: Have you made special inquiries?—No.

Mr. Stewart said that there were no magistrates in Lark-hall, and it would be necessary to get the signature of a Justice of the Peace.

His Lordship: Respondent is entitled to registration. It is his own fault that he is being prosecuted. He ought to have known the terms of an Act of Parliament dealing with his own profession. He had been very neglectful. At the same time, surely there was someone alive who would be in a position to sign the necessary certificate.

Mr. Stewart: If a Justice of the Peace is alive to-day who held office in 1867, he must be a very old man.

His Lordship: That is so. Addressing respondent, the Sheriff said that by his own neglect he had failed to observe the provisions of the statute, and he did not see how respondent was to be assisted out of this trouble unless he conformed to the statute. With the assistance of his solicitor he might discover a person qualified to sign the certificate, and in order to give him an opportunity of having this done, his Lordship continued the case for a month.

Mr. Stewart: If my client cannot get the necessary certificate he is prepared to sell the business.

Mr. Martin: Nobody knew he was not a registered chemist until last year.

The case was then adjourned.

BANKRUPTCY REPORT.

Re Joseph Marks-Multerer, 59 and 60 Eagle Street, Holborn, Patent Inks Manufacturer.—This case came before Mr. Registrar Brougham at the London Bankruptcy Court last week in relation to the public examination of the debtor, lately managing director of the Safety Chemical Co., Ltd., Hanway Street. Mr. G. W. Chapman, Official Receiver, reported that the debtor had failed to lodge his accounts in pursuance of the peremptory order made against him by the Court on May 10. Under those circumstances he asked for the sitting to be adjourned *sine die*, and intimated that an application would be made in chambers for a warrant to secure the debtor's attendance. His Honour made an order in those terms.

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

CADMAN, A. W., and WILSON, F. E., 1 Tressillian Crescent, Brockley, London, S.E., medical practitioners, under the style of Drs. Cadman & Wilson.

NICHOLS, A., and JAMIESON, A., New Street, Birmingham, health specialists, under the style of Mrs. Jamieson-Nichols.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

MCCARTHY, W. A., West Green Road, South Tottenham, chemist and druggist.

PEARCE, C., Boston House, Warrington Street, and Whiteacre Road, Hurst, Ashton-under-Lyne, physician and surgeon.

PROSSER, R. A. S., Sydney House, Lozells Road, Aston, surgeon.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

Mr. H. W. CAMMELL (late of Nottingham) has opened a new business in Wharf Road, Pinxton, near Alfreton, Derbyshire.

MESSRS. R. W. GREEFF & Co. are removing on June 10 to larger premises at Thames House, Queen Street Place (adjoining Southwark Bridge), London, E.C.

A CHEMIST AS CARICATURIST.—Mr. P. M. J. Varga, who is a chemist in New York, in his spare time writes for the Budapest daily paper "Egyetertes," and is known as a talented caricaturist.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," May 1, 1912.)

Label device with words "DE WITT'S KIDNEY & BLADDER PILLS," facsimile signature, etc.; for pills (3). By E. C. De Witt & Co., 44 Rathbone Place, Oxford Street, London, W. 339,879.

"BISTRATED"; for a stomachic powder (3). By To-Kalon Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 212 Great Portland Street, London, W. 340,411.

"METROTONIN" and "CARDIOLIN"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By the Bayer Co., Ltd., 20 Booth Street, Manchester. 340,724, 341,021.

"ENEMOSE"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Fairchild Bros. & Foster, 65 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C. 340,910.

"DISCAINE"; for local anæsthetics (3). By Western Dental Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 73-79 Queen's Road, Bristol. 340,964.

"HORUS"; for medicines (3). By T. Williams, 90 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 340,978.

"REZZUPS"; for a medicine (3). By J. H. Buffham, 97 New Oxford Street, London, W.C. 341,045.

"COMPUER"; for photographie and optical goods (8). By Friedr. Deckel Gesellschaft, Waarkirchnerstrasse 11, Munich. 340,817.

"HELIOPLAN" and "SPHAROSTIGMAT"; for optical instruments (8). By Hugo Meyer & Co., 22 Biesnitzerstrasse, Görlitz. 340,927.

"ACHILLES" and "CÆSAR"; for eye-glasses and spectacles (8). By J. & R. Fleming, 136 and 142 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. 341,214/5.

"LITTSTEP"; for all goods (11). By W. S. Rice, Ltd., 8 and 9 Stonecutter Street, London, E.C. 339,002.

"GASTROLIQUE"; for a stomach-pump (11). By C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., 35-42 Charlotte Street, London, E.C. 341,154.

"REGAL"; for infants' and invalids' foods (42). By Boot's Pure Drug Co., Ltd., 37 Station Street, Nottingham. 337,090.

"PARSIDIUM"; for non-medicated toilet-jelly (48). By Dearborn, Ltd., 32 Theobalds Road, London, W.C. 341,072.

"ROMANCE"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Morny Frères, Ltd., 201 Regent Street, London, W. 341,360.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," May 8, 1912.)

"TENNINE"; for all goods (1). By F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27 Charterhouse Square, London, E.C. 341,160.

Label device with words "PROREOCEN CHEMICAL CO."; for all goods (2). By Proreocen Chemical Co., 56 Cholmondeley Road, Pendleton, Manchester. 339,945.

"DELEOL"; for disinfectants (2). By F. Bloch, Friedrichstrasse 173, Berlin, W.8. 341,715.

"PERISTALTOL"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Society of Chemistry in Basle, 141 Klybeckstrasse, Basle. 338,101.

Design of building with Dutch wording including "KLAAS TILLY"; for a medicinal oil (3). By Klaas Tilly, Bake-nessegracht 27, Haarlem, Holland. 339,360.

"PEPTOGESTA"; for medicines (3). By W. H. McMullan & Co., 16 Main Street, Larne, Co. Antrim. 339,554.

"PIPIOL"; for a preparation for insect-stings (3). By Albeck et Cie., 67 Rue Richelieu, Paris. 340,648.

"HAEMALT"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By A. Hommel & Co., Ltd., 115 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. 340,998.

"NOJOVODIN"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Dr. R. Scheuble & Co., Tribuswinkel, near Baden, Lower Austria. 341,148.

"APOMARIN"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Bayer Co., Ltd., 20 Booth Street, Manchester. 341,390.

"QUINTOL"; for food substances (42). By Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A Southwark Street, London. 341,232.

Picture of wheelbarrow with Chinese characters "SIAU CHE"; for common soap (47), perfumery, etc. (48). By W. Gossage & Sons, Ltd., Widnes, Lancs. 340,885/6.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

GARRY & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Registered in Dublin. Capital 200*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a pharmaceutical chemist, druggist, etc., carried on under the style of "Garry & Co.," at 10 Greville Street, Mullingar, co. Westmeath. The first directors are P. Merlehan and Margaret Merlehan. R.O., 10 Greville Street, Mullingar, co. Westmeath.

ORGANIC PRODUCTS SYNDICATE, LTD.—Capital 24,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemical, industrial, and other preparations and articles, drysalts, chemical manufacturers, and druggists, etc. The first directors are P. B. Rockitt, E. G. Appleby, F. E. Matthews, T. Neild, J. L. Major, and E. H. Strange. R.O., 50 City Road, London, E.C.

SOENOL, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers and sellers of materials for the industrial treatment of water as formerly carried on by J. H. Paul at Westcombe Hill, Greenwich, as the Water-softening Materials Co., and to adopt an agreement with J. H. Paul, J. J. Lassen, and V. F. Hjord. The first directors are J. H. Paul, J. J. Lassen, and V. F. Hjord (all permanent).

FREDERICK J. HUNT & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1,400 preference shares of 5*l.* each and 5,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To carry on the business of soap manufacturers, fat and tallow melters, manufacturers and dealers, preparers of and dealers in all kinds of oils and oleaginous and saponaceous substances, pharmaceutical, manufacturing and general chemists and druggists, etc., to acquire the business and undertaking carried on at the Bow Bridge Soap-works, Stratford, E., as Fredk. J. Hunt & Co., and to adopt agreements (1) with F. J. Hunt, G. S. Pitt, and W. H. Leaver, and (2) with said F. J. Hunt. The first directors are F. J. Hunt and G. S. Pitt. R.O., Bow Bridge Soap-works, Stratford, E.

Company News.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT CO., LTD.—The annual report to be submitted to the shareholders at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, E.C., on June 10, states that out of the balance on the profit-and-loss account, amounting to 254,070*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*, preference-share interest and an interim dividend on the ordinary shares has been paid, and it is proposed to appropriate the balance as follows: Final dividend on the ordinary shares of 10 per cent., 60,000*l.*; bonus of 2*s.* 6*d.* per ordinary share, 15,000*l.*; reserve fund, 30,000*l.*; employees' provident fund, 2,000*l.*; directors' percentages, 18,333*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*; leaving a sum of 43,736*l.* 13*s.* to carry forward.

THE DISPENSARY (PENANG), LTD.—The third ordinary general meeting was held at Penang on April 31. The Chairman (Dr. T. Hill Jamieson) said that the result of last year's working had been very satisfactory, the turnover for 1911 showing an increase of nearly \$25,000 over that for 1910. They had since received several new agencies and were dispensing the prescriptions of four of the leading Penang doctors. The branch at Campbell Street was in full swing, and extensions had been made to the Bishop Street office. The extra fittings and decorations had made it one of the best chemists' shops in the Straits and the Federated Malay States. Mr. Noordin proposed a bonus of \$1,000 to the managing director as a special remuneration, a bonus of a month's salary to each of the assistants, and that \$2,500 be carried to reserve account and \$330.56 be carried over for next year. The directors' report shows a net profit for the year of \$13,413.87, which, added to the balance of \$1,000.69 brought forward from last account, leaves \$14,414.56 available for distribution, which is to be distributed as follows: Dividend of 15 per cent. (\$9,750), directors' remuneration (\$250), bonuses (\$1,534), to reserve (\$2,500), balance forward (\$330). The report and accounts were adopted.

THE SANITAS CO., LTD.—The fourteenth ordinary general meeting was held at Locksley Street, Limehouse, London, E., on May 29, Mr. C. T. Kingzett, F.I.C., F.C.S. (chairman and managing director), presiding. In moving the adoption of the report and accounts (*C. & D.*, May 25, index folio 770), the Chairman said he had always the same story of steady progress to tell year after year. Once again the company could point to a record year. The sales were larger than ever; a larger profit than ever before had been made, notwithstanding the impediments to business by the continued and renewed strikes. As the shareholders well knew, the company were manufacturers of all kinds of dis-

infectants. All the same, it is satisfactory to know that the sales of the older materials still continue to grow very satisfactorily. Of late years the sales of sanitas fluid have been augmented by its use as a remedy against insect-stings, and a new application of sanitas powder has been found as a means of ridding gardens of slugs. The directors recommended to add $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. all round to the employees' bonus. During the year the redemption of the debentures had been completed, so that now the capital of the company stands without anything in front of it—there are no debentures and no preference shares. Referring to a shareholder's letter *re* increasing the rate of dividend, the Chairman said that would have their careful consideration, but the increase, if any, would only be a slight one. The motion was adopted unanimously, no questions being asked. Mr. R. M. Cunningham, the retiring director, was re-elected *nem. con.*, and the auditors reappointed.

BIRTHS.

HYMANS.—At 54 Cranhurst Road, London, N.W., on May 23, the wife of H. Hymans (Messrs. H. Hymans & Co.), of a daughter.

JENKIN.—At 86 Lower Bristol Road, Bath, on May 20, the wife of Charles Jenkin, dispensing chemist, of a son.

RITCHIE.—At 12 George Street, Montrose, on May 22, the wife of A. W. Ritchie, chemist and druggist, of a son (stillborn).

MARRIAGES.

HAWLEY-GRAY.—At the British Consulate-General, Yokohama, and at Christ Church, Yokohama, on May 9, by the Rev. W. Weston, M.A., Herbert Vernon Hawley, chemist and druggist, of Messrs. Brett & Co., Yokohama, to Amy Gray.

PERRY-GRIGOR.—At St. Stephen's Church, Phillip Street, Sydney, N.S.W., on February 27, by the Rev. John Ferguson, Arthur Harcourt, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Perry, Breakfast Creek, Brisbane, to Beatrice Austin, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Grigor, Macquarie Street, Sydney, late of Elgin, Scotland.

WARD-LOMAX.—At Duckworth Street Congregational Church, Darwin, on May 28, Joseph Ward to Nellie, eldest daughter of Mr. W. H. Lomax, Ph.C., "West Mount," Belgrave Road, Darwin.

DEATHS.

ACTON.—On May 16, Mr. Aubrey Acton, chemist and druggist, 237 Main Street, Bridgeton, Glasgow, aged seventy-six.

BLACK.—In London, on May 23, suddenly, Mr. George Black, of G. Black & Co., chemists' printers, Edinburgh, aged sixty-four. Mr. Black was in London on a business visit and fell in a swoon in his hotel, and died shortly afterwards. He was a native of Collesie, near Cupar-Fife, and was a clerk with Messrs. Mould & Tod, Edinburgh, whom he left in 1885 to become a partner with Mr. Andrew Kinross, in founding a printing business in Edinburgh. The partnership was continued until 1899, when Mr. Kinross, one of the most popular veterans of the British drug-trade, took over the business, carrying it on under his own name at St. James' Place, Edinburgh, while Mr. Black started on his own account as George Black & Co. in Duke Street Lane, Edinburgh.

CROWLEY.—At Tralee, on May 22, Mr. Cornelius Crowley, pharmaceutical chemist, aged forty-six.

FINDLAY.—At Findochty, Banffshire, on May 10, Mr. Alexander Findlay, chemist and druggist, aged thirty-five.

FINGLAND.—At Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, on May 22, Mr. James Fingland, chemist and druggist, aged sixty. Mr. Fingland, who had been in poor health for some time, served his apprenticeship at Thornhill with his father, the late Mr. William Fingland. On the latter's death he

took over the business, and a few years ago his assistant, Mr. Robert Cook, was admitted as a partner. Mr. Fingland took an active part in public affairs of the district, having been a member and Chairman of Merton Parish Council. He was an ardent botanist, and was one of the promoters of the Thornhill Horticultural Society. Mrs. Fingland survives him.

ROOM.—On May 22, at Ivy Cottage, Corbridge-on-Tyne, Mr. William Henry Froom, late of Aldersgate Street, London, E.C., aged seventy-seven. The late Mr. Froom was in business as a chemist and druggist before the Pharmacy Act of 1868. Previous to his retirement about 1905, he was sole proprietor of the two pharmacies of Messrs. Vines & Froom in Aldersgate Street. The original business appears to have been established at 75 Aldersgate Street (since removed to new premises at No. 64) by the late Mr. Richard Vines in 1820, and at his death it was acquired by Mr. Froom, who successfully carried it on as Vines & Froom for a period of about forty-five years. During this period a branch was opened at 197 (at the corner of Little Britain), which was formerly a surgery. Mr. Froom devoted special attention to the proprietary and dispensing side of the business, and was a staunch believer in preparing and putting up his own remedies in preference to selling proprietary medicines. Messrs. Vines & Froom possess an old recipe-book with the inscription of Mr. Richard Vines, 4 Cheapside, and dated 1815. The inference is that Mr. Vines was an assistant with the original Butlers (now Butler & Crispe), who occupied No. 4 at that period. On Mr. Froom's retirement Mr. Thomas Needham became the proprietor of the Vines & Froom businesses.

HARRINGTON.—On May 14, Mr. Arthur Harrington, chemist and druggist, Bristol, and late in business at Wesley Buildings, Llanhilleth, Newport, Mon., aged sixty-five.

HART.—At 293 Blackburn Road, Bolton, on May 25, Mrs. Catherine Phillips Hart, widow of Mr. James Hart, pharmaceutical chemist, aged eighty-three.

HODKINSON.—At his residence, 20 Cumberland Street, Macclesfield, on May 19, Mr. John Hodgkinson, chemist and druggist, of 101 Mill Street, aged seventy-five. Mr. Hodgkinson was an accomplished man, and at one time took special interest in the cultivation of medicinal plants. He was a graceful writer—indeed he was one of those who had mastered the art of letter-writing, a fact which we learnt in occasional correspondence with him. He is succeeded in business by his son, Mr. John Hodgkinson.

HUME.—At Bromleigh, Kingsholm, Gloucester, recently, Mr. John William David Hume, chemist and druggist. Mr. Hume, owing to ill-health, retired from business at 48 London Road North, Lowestoft, about eighteen months ago. He underwent an operation a few weeks ago, but pneumonia supervened and caused his death.

WEBSTER.—On May 20, Mr. John William Webster, chemist and druggist, 91 Lee Street, Oldham, aged thirty.

WOODHOUSE.—On May 22, at Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, of peritonitis, Otway Hensley, the second son of Mr. Coventry A. Woodhouse, of Southmead, Wimbledon Park, S.W., and of Messrs. C. M. & C. Woodhouse, Colonial brokers, 30 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., aged twenty-four. (By cable.)

WILLS PROVEN.

Mr. JAMES CASIMIR ROBERTS, chemist and druggist, Victoria Place, New Brighton, Wallasey, who died on December 1 last, left estate valued at 3,320*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* gross, with net personality 882*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Mr. THOMAS FRANK LYNCH, Ballyowen, South Norwood Park, London, S.E., chairman of Henry Lamplough, Ltd. and part proprietor of Benbow's Dog-mixture Co., 181 Aldersgate Street, E.C., who died on February 25 last, left estate of the gross value of 8,647*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, of which 8,563*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* is net personality. Probate of his will, dated August 16, 1911, has been granted to his sons-in-law, Mr. Joseph William Asprey, 5 Gray's Inn Square, W.C., solicitor, and Mr.

Llewellyn Thelwall, surgeon, Saffron Walden, and his wife, the testator's daughter, Mrs. Kathleen Fanny Thelwall, Saffron Walden. The testator left 10*l.* each to Fanny and Lizzie Anthony if in his service at his death, 50*l.* to Emma Hancock, his "faithful and valued friend and former servant," 250*l.* to Evelyn Conder, 50*l.* each to his nieces, Mary and Florence Benbow, his interest in the business of Benbow's Dog-mixture Co. as to one-half to his daughter, Mrs. Thelwall, one-fourth to his son-in-law, Mr. J. W. Asprey, and one-fourth upon trust for his grand-daughter, Sybil Kathleen Asprey, and he left the secret of the said mixture and any memorandum connected therewith to his said daughter absolutely. He left the residue of his estate as to one-fourth less 500*l.* to Mr. J. W. Asprey, one-fourth and the said sum of 500*l.* upon trust for Sybil Kathleen Asprey, and one-half to Mrs. Thelwall. His trustees may in their discretion consent to the business of Benbow's Dog-mixture Co. being converted into a limited-liability company.

National Health Insurance.

Reserve Values for Women.

The Joint Committee of the National Health Insurance Commission have issued tables of reserve values for women (employed contributors and voluntary contributors who join within the first six months after July 15 under the age of forty-five). These tables show the amount which will be placed to the credit of the approved societies for each woman member. The table, as in the case of that previously issued for men, is so prepared as to make it equally advantageous to a society to take members at any age, although the rate of contribution is the same for all ages. The reserves credited to a society for married women joining as employed contributors are larger than those credited for spinsters or widows of the same age, since the society will have immediately to meet the additional cost of the sickness benefit, which in the case of insured married women is paid concurrently with maternity benefit. Two official leaflets concerning insured women have also been issued. These are No. 11A and 16, and are written in popular language. The leaflets can be obtained free from the office of the Commissioners, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.

Friendly Societies and Doctors.

On Whit Monday meetings of friendly societies were held in different parts of the country, the most important being that of the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows, held at Nottingham. The Grand Master (Brother W. H. Warren), in the course of his address, quoted a remark of Sir James Barr's as a deliberate intention to affront the great friendly societies. Referring to the threatened medical boycott, he advised the Chancellor of the Exchequer to avail himself of the alternative offered by the Act, and hand over the medical contribution to the approved societies, who would have no difficulty in securing proper medical attendance and treatment for every insured person. What the societies had done in the past they would be able to do in the future. He further advised the Chancellor of the Exchequer to resist the "inordinate demands of the medical profession," and assured him of the support of friendly society members.

At a conference of the Rechabites at Leicester on May 28, a resolution was unanimously passed expressing the strongest objection to the minimum payment of 8*s.* 6*d.* demanded by the British Medical Association for medical services under the Act and urging the Treasury and Commissioners to remain firm against any increase.

Chemists' Friendly Society.

Under the auspices of the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association, the Leith Chemists' Association, the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, and the Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club, a meeting of chemists, chemists' assistants and apprentices, and all those (both male and female) connected with the drug and allied trades, wholesale and retail, was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, May 23, at 9.15 p.m. Mr. Thomas Stephenson, Ph.C., F.R.S.E., presided over a large attendance. Mr. G. H. C. Rowland

read a report of a preliminary meeting held on April 16, which was addressed by Councillor Hamilton, authorised lecturer of the Scottish National Insurance Commission, and explained that the present meeting had been called in pursuance of the resolution arrived at then. The Chairman called upon Mr. William McCallum, C.A., manager of the Society, to address the meeting, which he did, also answering questions. On the motion of Mr. Henry Stout, seconded by Mr. J. H. Taylor, it was unanimously resolved—

“That this meeting endorses the action of the Glasgow chemists in forming a Chemists' Friendly Society for approval under the National Insurance Act, and strongly advises employers and all employes connected with pharmacy to support this Society by becoming members of one or other of its sections.”

Messrs. J. G. Fraser, W. McEwen, G. H. C. Rowland, H. Stout, P. M. Thomson, J. H. Taylor, and J. D. Watson were appointed a Standing Local Committee.

Under the auspices of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association a meeting of pharmacists and assistants of Manchester, Salford, and surrounding towns was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on May 22, Mr. J. C. Kidd (President of the Association) in the chair. Eighty employers and assistants were present. The purpose of the meeting was to hear delegates from the Chemists' Friendly Society. Mr. Thomas Guthrie, its Chairman, was to have been the speaker, but he was detained in London. Mr. James Lennox, Ph.C., and Mr. J. B. McVitie, of Glasgow, appeared in his place. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Lennox explained how the Society originated (as already narrated in this journal), the following being points in favour of the formation of a Chemists' Friendly Society:

1. Chemists' assistants are a very healthy class, and, having the means of keeping themselves so, they anticipate illness, and so ward off serious illness which otherwise might ensue.

2. The Society would consist largely of young men whose average sickness is low. The average sickness per year at twenty-five years, *e.g.*, is 0.928 week, but at sixty-nine years is thirteen weeks.

3. Many assistants earning under 160*l.* on starting in business on their own account, and earning, say, 200*l.* or over, would drop out of the Society, thus always making it better for those who remain.

4. There is the reserve value. All who enter during the first year, *e.g.*, begin as at age sixteen, and a man forty years of age, *e.g.*, is credited by the Government with his surrender-value, say 8*l.* at 3 per cent. in perpetuity; hence the advantage of getting all in at once, and the danger of delay.

Mr. Lennox proceeded to explain that the Society is national—*i.e.*, not Glasgow or Scottish or English, but British. He indicated the special advantages of a chemists' society, and submitted reasons against forming several in place of one. He suggested the formation in large centres of local committees acting unofficially under one person, who might be given an honorarium for his trouble, and who could do all that was required locally. Mr. McVitie followed, explaining the class of lives which it is proposed to accept, including assistants (wholesale and retail), typists, men and women clerks, assistants in sundries houses, and all who, from the nature of their employment, are likely to remain more or less permanently in the trade; but not bottle-washers, carters, porters, or young women engaged in capsule-filling or packing of sundries. He explained that it is not desirable to accept those who after a short stay in the drug-trade left it and perhaps went into less healthy occupations, thus lowering the general standard of health of the society with corresponding diminution in the benefits.

Messrs. Lane, Bates, Blain, Delve, Doran, Geo. S. Woolley, Kirkby, Grier, Woodcock, and Cleworth took part in the discussion, during which it was elicited that the duties of a local committee when formed would be light and mostly advisory, but it would be proper for it to investigate causes of excessive illness and of misbehaviour. An assistant leaving his situation to attend college will be liable to pay the whole 7*d.* each week, but this was mentioned as a reason for joining a Chemists' Friendly Society, which would make the payment of this one of the special benefits to be offered assistants. Mr. George S.

Woolley calculated that the average sickness of his whole staff is 4.37 days per year as against the fraction of a day of the Glasgow firm employing 120 people. He regretted the discrimination between the various grades of service in large establishments, and thought it would be difficult to draw the line. He moved—

“That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that steps should be taken to form a local committee to co-operate with the Chemists' Friendly Society, and that the members of this meeting pledge themselves to further the interests of the said Society.”

Mr. Bates seconded. Mr. Woodcock proposed a non-committal amendment, which Mr. Doran seconded and Mr. F. Ringer supported. This was lost by a large majority, and Mr. Woolley's motion carried. Mr. Wm. Kirkby proposed—

“That the Council of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association be requested to take steps to arrange for the formation of such a committee giving equal representation to both employers and employed, the latter to be elected by the assistants.”

Mr. Cleworth seconded this, and it was carried with only one dissentient. Messrs. Lennox and McVitie were most cordially thanked. As the meeting dispersed a large quantity of literature dealing with the Insurance Act, sent by the Secretary to the National Health Insurance Commissioners, was distributed.

Licking the Stamps.

Much has been heard of the stamping of employees' cards every week, but little has been told of how the contributions are to be paid. The matter is put quite pithily by a director of the Chemists' Friendly Society (190/1), in a communication which we have received and from which we quote:

Some doubt exists as to how contributions are to be paid. It is quite simple. Each insured person gets a card, and no employer dare take an assistant without this, to which a 7*d.* stamp (women 6*d.*) is affixed for each week. The employer pays 3*d.* of it and deducts 4*d.* (3*d.* women) from the assistant's salary. When the thirteen spaces provided are full the card is sent to the Society and a new one obtained. The Government allows 11*d.* per quarter per member for working expenses, *plus* 1*s.* for each member obtained during the first six months, and anything saved on this may be used for additional benefits, as no profit, direct or indirect, can be made.

Further information can be obtained from Mr. McCallum, 194 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

The Shops Act, 1912.

The Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has received from the Home Secretary a letter conveying an important and useful concession as regards the position of the exterior notice required to be shown by chemists and others who serve customers with medicine during closing hours on half-holidays. See the article, index folio 810. We supply the necessary notice printed on a card measuring 14 in. by 11 in., at 8*d.* for two cards post free. The card can be placed against the window-pane on the inside and kept in position with any suitable support, such as a box of soap.

“The Shops Act as Applied to Ireland” is the title of a popular guide for shopkeepers and assistants by Dr. J. C. McWalter, LL.B., and Mr. G. J. Daly, B.L., which has been issued this week. It sells at 1*d.*, and is published in Dublin by E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116 Grafton Street, and Eason & Son, Middle Abbey Street.

News Items.

Belfast.—There is some dissatisfaction in the drug-trade as to the working of the Wednesday half-holiday.

Blairgowrie.—The petition for a compulsory closing order submitted by two-thirds of the pharmacists in Blairgowrie was remitted to a committee of the Town Council for consideration and report. The local chemists were

invited to attend the conference, and both the minority (Mr. W. Davidson) and the majority (Messrs. J. D. Petrio and C. Clark) having stated their cases, the committee agreed to recommend to the Town Council that their petition for a compulsory closing order be granted. The hours mentioned therein are: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 8.30 A.M. to 8 P.M.; Thursday, 8.30 to 1 P.M.; Saturday, 8.30 A.M. to 9 P.M.; Sunday, 12.45 to 2 P.M., and 5 to 6 P.M.

Croydon chemists are petitioning the local authority for an order for compulsory closing on one half-day per week. Out of fifty-three members of the trade, forty-one have signed the petition.

Edinburgh.—At a meeting of a sub-committee of the Lord Provost's Committee of Edinburgh Town Council on Wednesday, May 29, a deputation from chemists and druggists appeared in support of a petition to extend the half-holiday so as to include chemists and druggists and the sale of medical and surgical appliances, and also that Wednesday be fixed as the day for the half-holiday. Mr. J. Rutherford Hill acted as spokesman of the deputation. He stated that their petition had been agreed to at a large and representative meeting. A canvass had been made of 140 shops in the city. Of 121 occupiers of chemists' shops in the city, 107, representing 124 shops, signed the petition, and only fourteen, representing sixteen shops, refused to sign. Wednesday was the day fixed by all the occupiers except seven, who preferred Saturday. There was serious difficulty about the compulsory half-holiday for assistants, which could only be satisfactorily met by a universal compulsory half-holiday. Mr. Hill pointed out that in several branch pharmacies one qualified pharmacist is in charge of each, and the shop could not lawfully be kept open unless he was present. He must have a half-holiday on a fixed day each week, and on that day it was practically compulsory that the shop must be closed. It was desirable that the largest possible number of assistants should have their half-holiday on the same day. He referred to the objection made that the compulsory closing would be a hardship, as preventing people securing drugs or appliances, by pointing out that there were shops open day and night in the city where cases could be supplied. So long as there was an open door chemists would be unable to get the benefit of the Act. Mr. Hill also referred to the increasing practice with dairies and small shops of selling various medicines, and they asked that the petition should be applied to these shops. They also asked that it be applied to hawking from door to door during the half-holiday. Reference was made to the action of the City of Glasgow, where the doctors had agreed to have no consulting hour on the half-holiday. The little experience which had been obtained from the voluntary closing had intensified the desire for the complete establishment of universal closing. After the first petitioners had been heard a deputation from the chemists and druggists who objected to the fixing of a compulsory half-holiday was also heard, and stated its objections to the proposal. The committee agreed to recommend the Town Council to take, as set forth by the Act, a plebiscite of the trade, with the object of finding its wishes in the matter.

Kirkcaldy and Dysart.—The chemists and druggists in these districts have decided to close on Wednesdays at 1 P.M. for the weekly half-holiday.

Plymouth.—The Town Council on May 23 decided to take the necessary steps for compulsorily closing chemists' shops on Wednesdays at 1 P.M. Thirty-seven out of forty pharmacists signed a petition in favour of closing on Wednesdays at 1 P.M.

Ramsgate and St. Lawrence.—The Town Council on May 23 decided to grant the chemists' application for a closing order on Thursdays at 1 P.M. from October to May inclusive.

Richmond-on-Thames.—A petition from pharmacists asking for an order for half-day closing on Wednesdays was referred by the Town Council to the General Purposes Committee. The committee reported that they did not think it desirable for any order to be made until more experience had been gained of the working of the Act and the wishes of the affected tradesmen had been ascertained. The Council decided to inform the petitioners that they had adopted this view.

Southampton.—The Town Council on May 22 decided to defer action with regard to the application for an order for compulsory closing for chemists, herbalists, etc., on Wednesdays at 1 P.M., pending the holding of a public meeting of traders to consider its advisability.

Walthamstow.—The Urban District Council are taking steps to make a closing order on Thursdays at 1 P.M. for chemists and drug-vendors.

York chemists have applied to the City Council for an order for closing at one o'clock on one day in the week. The request has been referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

TRADE NOTES.

GIBBS'S BICENTENARY.—Messrs. D. & W. Gibbs, Ltd., City Soap Works, Wapping, London, E., are commemorating the bicentenary of the foundation of their business by a special offer to chemists. Particulars can be obtained by sending a postcard request to Messrs. Gibbs.

LOOSE CORKS in poison bottles, against which the Blackburn coroner had occasion to animadvert (index folio 817), are easily avoided by using "Poisonous" poison bottles which have a grip in the neck for holding the cork tight. They are obtainable at low prices from the usual wholesale houses.

PILL-COUNTING MACHINE.—Messrs. J. W. Pindar & Co., Brockley Tips, Brockley, London, S.E., inform us that they are now making Verie's rapid tablet and pill counting and filling machines at prices varying from 9*l.* 15*s.* to 24*l.*, according to size. The filling is done in either bottles or boxes as required.

"HOW TO INCREASE YOUR SALES."—No. 3 of this periodical, published by Sell's Advertising Agency, Ltd., 168 Fleet Street, London, E.C., is a summary of areas, population, and trade of the British Empire. The approximate population is given as 408,160,340, with an area of 12,660,129 square miles. A copy can be obtained from the Agency by any of our readers who apply.

"SOLOID" WATER-ANALYSIS.—The seventh edition has been published of Dr. J. C. Thresh's "Simple Method of Water-analysis" (Churchill, 2*s.* 6*d.*), in which is worked out in an ingenious but simple manner the application of "soloid" analytical reagents for the examination of water supplies. The book is especially designed for the use of medical officers of health, and the present edition embodies several alterations dictated by further experience with "soloids." "Parts per 100,000" is now employed in place of "grains per gallon," thus following the modern trend of water reports. The methods here given have been adopted by the Admiralty and are in use in hundreds of his Majesty's ships. The method has been in use in the army for some years.

WAIT-AND-SEE LIVER-PILLS.—A proprietary article which gives the retailer 50 per cent. protected profit is so rare that chemists are naturally keenly interested in all efforts to make such an article better known to the public. The Wait-and-See Proprietary, 13-14 Abchurch Lane, London, are giving excellent publicity to their liver-pills. We have seen a proof of a whole-page advertisement which is going in the "Daily Mail" and the "Daily News and Leader" on June 1. A reduced facsimile of it is given in our own pages. To help chemists to get their share of the results of this enterprise the pills should be on hand, and the makers offer special terms for window or counter displays, and they will send advertising material to our subscribers on application.

DANZO BEETLE-POWDER.—Danysz Virus, Ltd., 52 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C., have just brought out a new beetle-powder under the name of "Danzo." It is put up in tins with green label and perforated lever tops, which sell at 3*d.*, 6*d.*, 1*s.*, and 2*s.* 6*d.*, these prices being protected. The 3*d.* line is packed in card boxes of 2-dozen tins, and the 6*d.* line in boxes of 1 dozen. The powder is different from the usual insect-powder, in that it is white and practically free from odour, and the makers state the powder positively kills blackbeetles, cockroaches, and ants as soon as it comes in contact with these pests. Arrangements are being made for an advertising campaign in the newspapers, and supplies of counter-bills bearing the name and address of the vendor can be obtained on request.

COLLEGE NOTES.

GLASGOW SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.—The students of this pharmaceutical institution made an excursion to Garelochhead by train and steamer on the King's Birthday (May 23), when, favoured with delightful weather, a most enjoyable and instructive day was spent. Although vegetation is not so far advanced as it was at the same time last year, many botanical specimens of interest were gathered. After a friendly game of football, tea was taken at Garelochhead.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale

Auroquinine is a compound of quinine with para-amido-benzoic acid. It is claimed to possess all the virtues of quinine, with a considerably less bitter taste and greater freedom from objectionable after-effects. It dissolves in ten times its weight of water.

Asebotine.—Bourquelot and Fichtenholz have shown ("Journal de Pharm. et de Chim.," 1912, 296) that the glucoside which they have extracted from the leaves of *Kalmia latifolia* is identical with that isolated from the leaves of *Andromeda japonica* by Eykman, which he termed asebotine. When air-dried asebotine melts at 115°, and when anhydrous at 154°. Its specific rotation is $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 59^\circ$.

Jambulol, a phenolic compound possessing the empirical formula $C_{10}H_8O_4(OH)_2$, recently found in jambul-seeds by Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. Callan, has also been found in rhubarb by Messrs. Frank Tutin and H. W. B. Clewer. Some time ago (*C. & D.*, 1911, I., 551) they described the isolation from rhubarb of a small amount of a substance (m.p. above 340°) which yielded an acetyl derivative melting at 335°. This they now find to be identical with jambulol.—*Proc. Chem. Soc.*

Chemistry of Caryophyllene.—Semmler and Mayer ("Berichte," 44, 3657) have made an exhaustive study of the sesquiterpene caryophyllene, the well-known constituent of oil of cloves and other essential oils. They consider that the crude sesquiterpene consists of three isomeric hydrocarbons; of these, one is the alpha-caryophyllene isolated by Deussen, and the other two are optically active isomers which are named *terp*-caryophyllene and *lim*-caryophyllene. They do not appear, however, to be the optically active varieties of the same hydrocarbon, but differ in their chemical structures. By treating ordinary caryophyllene in ethyl chloride with ozone a complex mixture of neutral and acid bodies is obtained, from which the following characteristic compounds have been separated: A *ketone*, $C_{15}H_{24}O$, was isolated, which formed a pale green liquid boiling at 73°-76° (11-12 mm.), sp. gr. 0.882 at 20°, ref. ind. 1.4387 at 20°, and opt. rot. -7° . Its semicarbazone melts at 176°. A *diketone*, $C_{15}H_{22}O_2$, was also separated, and had the following properties: Sp. gr. 0.9600 at 20°, ref. ind. 1.4677 at 20°, opt. rot. $+34^\circ$, and boiling-point (9 mm.) 137°-142°. A *ketonic acid*, $C_{15}H_{22}O_3$, was separated, which had the following characters: Sp. gr. 1.040 at 20°, ref. ind. 1.4677 at 20°, opt. rot. $+44^\circ$, and boiling-point (11-12 mm.) 183°-187°. It forms a methyl ester and a semicarbazone, the latter melting at 183°.

Senega and Sarsaparilla.—Professor R. Kobert contributed an interesting paper on the biological examination of sarsaparilla and allied drugs at the March meeting of the Deutsche Pharmaceutische Gesellschaft. Biological methods, he said, which are almost indispensable in the case of digitalis, are also necessary in examining quillaia, senega, sarsaparilla, and other drugs containing saponins. The effect of saponins is to destroy epithelial tissue. On injection saponins are powerful protoplasmic poisons, exercising a destructive and apparently also a dissolving influence on red corpuscles. This latter characteristic of the saponins has been used by Professor Kobert as a means of comparing this class of drugs. When defibrinated blood is diluted down with fifty to a hundred times its bulk of normal saline solution and mixed with a solution of saponin, the mixture becomes coloured like the wallflower, and partly transparent. Professor Kobert found it possible not only to establish the action of the saponin contained in the drug, but also the percentage present. Senega-root (containing polycarlic acid and senegin or Rosenthaler's senegon) had a content of up to 10 per cent. of saponins, but in a thirty-year-old drug this had diminished by four-fifths, the loss being due to the action of ferments. The active value of the sarsaparillas (containing three saponins) was fixed at 0.5 per cent. in the case of fresh Honduras sarsaparilla, a thirty-year-old drug only containing about 0.1 per cent. The active value of sarsaparilla from *Smilax ornata* was lower than that of Honduras. Dr. Kobert laid stress on the necessity of a thorough investigation of sarsaparilla, the data regarding its properties being inconclusive. The general recognition of sarsaparilla as an inactive drug is, Dr. Kobert said, due to the method of preparing the decoction. Sarsaparilla, after standing with water for twenty-four hours at a temperature of 35° to 40°, becomes, owing to fermentation, devoid of active substances.

CHINESE MUSK.—The exports of musk from Shanghai during 1910 amounted to 41,339 oz., against 26,744 oz. in 1909 and 28,848 oz. in 1908.



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INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 188/55. Hard's foods: maker.
- 190/12 "Ryona," for rheumatism.
- 180/9. Louis Langa's toilet articles.
- 186/40. Parisitine; address of makers.
- 187/43. "Thelma" perfume: makers.
- 187/510. "Comfopayne": proprietors.
- 189/72. "Terror" virus for rats: makers.
- 185/69. "Crynoïd," an iodine preparation.
- 183/240. "Elepton Nourishment": supply.
- 158/52 and 187/11. "Spanish Oil": supply.
- 182/37. Canfield's "Sweet Pea" bath-soap.
- 180/13. "Crème Nerol": makers or supply.
- 191/2. Keith's Dyspepsia Elixir: proprietor.
- 192/20. "Siver" pedicure safety razor.
- 187/51. "Hogg's Cockroach Paste": supply.
- 192/19. "Equatorial" hair-douche: suppliers.
- 22/29. "Marvel Baby Bunting Soothers": makers.
- 183/24 and 187/11. Manganix (a jointing substance).
- 191/24. "Davidson's Nipple Shields": proprietors.
- 186/73. Packers of Seidlitz powders, "Phoenix and Serpent" trade-mark.
- 184/65. Tin boxes, lacquered (for capsules), size 3 in. by 3½ in. by ½ in., with four holes each end: makers.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to the makers or sellers of the following articles. The information will be repeated to other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- "Abtab" herbal-mixture, 186/29
- Allen's spray vapour cabinet bath, 187/49
- Bartlett's burner, 186/20
- Beehives and appliances, 185/38
- "Bronkura," 187/50
- Cinchonidine sulphate tablets, 188/40
- Compagnie Ray's soaps, 185/550
- Cork manufacturers and exporters (Spain and Portugal), 182/74
- De Witt's pills, 190/12
- Dermolia, 185/852
- "Dorina" baby soap, 185/551
- Drug exporters (Costa Rica inquiry), 189/18
- Dugong oil (exporters), 180/61
- Ergotoxine, 186/72
- Glycerin manufacturers (German inquiry), 190/11
- Hinck's "Thermicon," 189/7
- Hotocold flasks, 187/9
- Hyll & Klein's agents, 187/70
- "Kalyde" (for poultry), 183/6
- "Klensene" (for dogs), 187/73
- Kreiform, 190/240
- Lamb's "Marble Cleaner," 185/55
- Laxets, 186/290
- Mercolised wax, 190/16 and 190/25
- Milk-sugar makers, 189/59
- "Nephretin," 190/24
- "Nopaine" dental anaesthetic, 187/44
- Olive-oil soap (Continental makers), 180/11
- "Ozolite" nightlights, 191/1
- Paper towels, 185/13
- Papier maché goods, 187/32
- Paraffinum solidum (Continental inquiry), 189/36
- Pill-coating machinery, 187/39
- "Postlip Mills" filtering-paper, 186/6
- "Rapid" flycatchers, 191/2
- "Ruby" worm-mixture and tonic pills (for dogs), 187/73
- "Saxe" wristlets, 188/7
- Scheele's prussic acid, 187/15
- "Solignum" wood preservative, 189/43
- Spiegel's "Yohimbine," 186/22
- Terpenol lozenges, 186/48
- Thymolphthalein, 188/26
- "Tiz" (London supply), 186/19
- Warren Capsule Co.'s goods, 187/51
- Wintersmith's preparations, 186/31

RUSSIAN LIQUORICE-ROOT.—The exports from Novorossisk during 1911 amounted to 3,246 tons, against 3,117 tons in 1910; from Batoum the exports were 15,186 tons in 1911, against 10,386 tons in 1910.

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser II.

The Working of the Shops Act,

so far as can be judged, is proceeding much more smoothly than was anticipated. Doubtless there are knotty points that need unravelling, and for some time to come there will be unconscious law-breaking on the part of chemists who do not know the dividing-line between what may and what may not be legally sold. I think, however, that so long as there is a *bona-fide* endeavour to give shop-assistants the boon of a half-holiday, and where there are no glaring attempts to circumvent the law, a good deal of latitude will be shown in its enforcement so far as pharmacists are concerned. The most gratifying feature of the series of reports published from week to week in the *C. & D.* is the spontaneity with which we as a class have adopted the half-holiday. In truth it almost looks as if there had been, waiting for an opportunity to give it expression, in many communities a unanimous desire for something to be done, and all that was needed to have that desire gratified was a gentle hint from Parliament. During the past three weeks I have made inquiries among shopkeepers generally as to how their sales are being affected by the Act, and so far I have not met with one who was not thoroughly satisfied. The weekly takings had suffered practically no diminution.

Tuberculin Dispensaries

are, according to Sir Robert Morant and Mr. Masterman, to be established everywhere, and they are intended to meet the requirements of the whole population, and not simply those of insured persons. Further, persons who are not insured are, apparently, to have free treatment. It is by no means clear what is meant by the cost of such treatment being borne by the authorities, or by persons who refer the patients to the dispensaries for treatment. If I, for example, recommend a customer to a dispensary, am I to be liable for the cost of the treatment, or is the local authority to pay the piper? Then where do we as pharmacists come in? Hitherto we have had the responsibility and the privilege of supplying a large proportion of the medicine required by the community, but much of that will now need to be supplied at a minimum profit, if not at an actual loss; and so far as dispensary treatment is concerned, we would seem to be out of it entirely. When tuberculin is used, as it probably will be in most cases, the doctor will no doubt purchase a concentrated suspension of tuberculin for a few shillings and proceed to make his own dilutions, getting from it probably a thousand doses; or, on the other hand, the dispensaries may be supplied free from a central laboratory by the Government, as is now the case with calf-lymph. In any event, it is going to be a poor outlook for the pharmacist who after years of study and the spending of much coin of the realm, not to say grey matter, has qualified himself for the very work which in many cases he will never get the chance of doing. This is a subject that might well occupy the attention of a Committee of the Pharmaceutical Council.

The Later Evidence

of Mr. Aitken, reported by you last week, showed a little uncertainty, not to say confusion of thought in the witness's mind with regard to further legislation. He said that prosecutions for fraud are practically useless because of the difficulty of obtaining convictions, that he could not suggest anything in the way

of further legislation to lessen the difficulty, that in his opinion putting the formula on the label would be of no avail, and that the present law is sufficient to deal with the sale of abortifacients; yet he accepted the Chairman's suggestion that "a general law on the subject of the sale of patent medicines" would be to the public advantage. Why he should think so without having any conception of any particular law likely to be helpful does not appear. What is meant by "a general law"? Is it a law aimed at every possible offence but at none in particular? Surely not. Every law, however general, must, I suppose, specify, and to a certain extent define, the offences with which it is meant to deal; and the difficulty of convicting would not be lessened by grouping any number of offences together. So far as we have got, this inquiry seems to indicate a feeling on the part both of the Committee and of the witnesses that something ought to be done, though nobody can say what. This, according to Matthew Arnold, is a characteristically English way of doing things. We "drive at practice" without waiting for knowledge. It is devoutly to be hoped that so long as knowledge lingers the wisdom of doing nothing will prevail. Mr. Aitken's first thought, that education is the true remedy, is the best.

Some Statements

are so ridiculous that they carry their refutation in their own inherent absurdity, and any formal repudiation simply gives them an importance out of all keeping with their value. Mr. Squire's letter exposing Dr. Nestor Tirard's silly assertion that "Squire's Companion" is largely a reprint of the *Pharmacopœia* is in that sense unnecessary to all who know the two books. Dr. Tirard's statement has certainly not been true of any edition of "Squire's Companion" published during the last forty years; indeed, it is nearer the truth to say that the *Pharmacopœia* consists largely of extracts from "Squire's Companion." Since 1864 three editions of the B.P. have been issued—i.e., four editions in forty-eight years; in the same time eighteen editions of Squire have been published! Does any sane person believe that these eighteen editions would have been absorbed if they had consisted largely of reprints from the B.P. or elsewhere?

The Creation of an Assistant's Qualification,

advocated by Mr. Douglas and two of your last week's correspondents, would in my opinion be a retrograde step, and one that would be against the best interests both of employers and of assistants. Many assistants would then be content with the lower qualification, which would be bad for themselves, and qualified men would find it more difficult than it is at present to get assistants' berths, which would be bad for everybody. There would also be the further result of increasing the number of inferior drug-stores and so-called pharmacies by the addition of hundreds of men possessing a quasi-pharmaceutical qualification, which would be disastrous to the true pharmacist. These are but some of the evils that would assuredly follow such a step, and the step itself is not called for by anything that has yet happened to us. The law as it stands, if administered in accordance with its spirit and intention without adherence to the strict letter, inflicts upon us no hardship that we need complain of when regard is had to the protection it affords us. It is indeed monstrous to demand that the pharmacist must minutely supervise every individual act of his unqualified assistant when dealing with poisons, in however small a quantity; his presence and general oversight are all that is required for the public safety, and all (I am persuaded) that the Act means. It will be time enough to agitate for an alteration of the law when judges generally rule otherwise.

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LIQUORS

Editorial Articles.

The Shops Act, 1912.

In the Memorandum on this Act issued by the Home Secretary it is stated that—

When a shopkeeper carries on several trades or businesses in his shop, some of which are required to be closed on a half-holiday or at fixed hours on other days of the week, while some are not, he will be allowed to keep his shop open after the closing hour for the trades or businesses not required to be closed—but for these only: and he will have to comply with any conditions that may be laid down by the Home Office or the local authority.

The Home Office has laid down the following condition [*inter alia*] for cases where a shop is kept open on a half-holiday for one of the exempted trades:

A notice in the following words:

"THIS SHOP IS CLOSED FOR TO-DAY EXCEPT FOR THE TRADE OR BUSINESS OF []"

must be exhibited in the shop after the closing hour on the day of the weekly half-holiday, whether the day is fixed by the shopkeeper himself or by an Order of the local authority. This notice must be in letters not less than 2 inches high, and must be posted in some conspicuous places both outside and inside the shop.

"Exterior" and "interior" are used in the Regulations in place of "outside" and "inside." In consequence of our representations the Home Secretary agreed to the abbreviation of the wording of the notice as regards medicines, etc., so that we were able to get it on a card measuring 14 in. by 11 in. We have received numerous communications from subscribers regarding the exhibition of this notice outside the pharmacy as well as inside, the outside one being objected to for various reasons. In consequence we again entered into communication with the Home Secretary and made a suggestion, with the result that he has agreed that the outside notice may be placed on the inside of the window-pane, as noted in the following letter:

Home Office, Whitehall,
23rd May, 1912.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 13th inst. with regard to No. 5 of the Regulations under the Shops Act, 1912, I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that he is advised that a notice on the inside of a shop window fixed against

the glass so as to be immediately visible from outside would comply with the requirement of the Regulation as to the exhibition of a notice "on the exterior" of the shop.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Malcolm Delivingne.

The Editor,

The "Chemist and Druggist,"

42 Cannon Street, E.C.

It will be noted that this modification does not reduce the number of notices to be exhibited, but it completely meets the chief objection to the exterior notice, which would have a short life in inclement weather, and for other reasons. The ample powers which the Home Secretary has under the Act in regard to such matters as this, and the readiness with which he has met the suggestions on behalf of the retail drug-trade which we have submitted to him, indicate that the Act is not to be administered in a narrow spirit. Mr. McKenna's reply to Captain Jessel last week in regard to chemists who work their businesses single-handed was to the effect that he had received no complaints. The difficulty that Captain Jessel had in view was the employment of temporary shop-assistants by chemists going on holiday. As long as a chemist is at home and able to attend to business he can do early-closing-day business himself; during his absence for a single week it is impossible for his assistant (if he has only one) on one half-day per week to serve customers during his half-holiday, whether it is contemporaneous with the closing day or not. Many suggestions have been made to get over this difficulty: some chemists have even thought of making assistants their partners *pro tem*. We mention this simply to indicate the reality of the difficulty with which chemists are faced in this matter. It may be possible to get some relief under Section 4, Sub-section 7, of the Act, which is as follows:

Provided that the occupier of a shop shall not be guilty of an offence against this Act when a customer is served at any time at which the shop is required to be closed under this section if he proves either that the customer was in the shop before the time when the shop was required to be closed, or that there was *reasonable ground for believing that the article supplied to the customer was required in the case of illness*.

Although the intent of the sub-section is to cover offences of serving customers (without reference to the person serving), we submit that *in the case of illness* it is not unreasonable for a chemist's assistant to supply medicines and medical and surgical appliances on his half-holiday. No doubt the point is one for the Courts to decide; but if it be in the power of the Home Secretary to express an opinion upon it, we trust that he will do so in the House of Commons. Meanwhile it would be of service if chemists who are in the position which we have described would submit particulars to the Home Secretary, Whitehall, London, S.W., so that he may have first-hand information about the matter.

Pharmacopœia Making.

THE methods adopted in this country in the preparation of the Pharmacopœia have been recently to the fore, and it is interesting to contrast these with the process as carried out in the United States. This is made appropriate by the receipt this week of the "Digest of Comments on the Pharmacopœia of the United States of America and on the National Formulary for the year ending December 31, 1909." The arrangements in the United States for the revision of the Pharmacopœia (which is decennial) are entrusted to a Convention which, although an independent body, exercises certain legal authority. The Convention met in 1910 and made the necessary arrangements for

bringing out a revision of the Pharmacopœia, a committee of fifty being appointed for the work, with Dr. H. W. Wiley as president and Professor J. P. Remington as chairman. Pharmacists are well represented on this committee. Each year is issued a "Digest of Comments," prepared by the Division of Pharmacology of the Hygienic Laboratory of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, and, as is possible when the work is done at the public expense, the digests are exhaustive. The United States Pharmacopœia being a legal standard under the Food and Drugs Act, it is necessary that public assistance should be given, so that no question of expense need deter the committee from employing the best resources available in the preparation of an authoritative work. The "Digest of Comments" for 1909, to which we referred, is prepared by Dr. Murray Galt Motter and Mr. Martin I. Wilbert. It is a volume of 730 pages—considerably more bulky than previous issues. The first 180 pages are occupied with matters of general interest and consist of extracts bearing upon the scope, legal status, standards, analytical data, biological products, vegetable drugs, and pharmaceutical preparations. There are in this section useful tables dealing with the degree of compliance with the provisions of the Brussels Conference on Heroic Drugs by Pharmacopœias published since 1905, and in this regard the Pharmacopœias brought out in 1909 and 1910 are dealt with separately in detail. The comments on official articles make up the bulk of the volume of digests. These begin with "Acacia" and end with "Zingiber," the hundreds of items between these extremes being dealt with in clearly expressed extracts of comments that have been printed in the pharmaceutical Press of the world. "Analytical Notes," emanating from the laboratories of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, and the "Report" of Messrs. Southall Bros. & Barclay are also extensively quoted. As an example of the utility of the matter thus brought together Bismuth Subgallate may be mentioned. Under this heading are collected six extracts from journals published in Belgium, France, the United States, and the United Kingdom. These show that commercial specimens of the salt had a range of 52 to 56 per cent. of bismuth oxide. Such data as are obtained in this way in the series of Digests cannot fail to be of service in fixing a standard which shall accord with the best samples of a commercially obtainable drug. The "Digest" covers a wide range of drugs, as matters relating to the "National Formulary" are also dealt with, that work being also a standard in the United States under the Food and Drugs Act. Diagnostics tests which are to be comprised in the next Pharmacopœia are also included. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the publication, to Britishers at least, is the fact that the work is done in a Government Department (the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service of the United States), and the book is printed in the Government Printing Office at Washington. We daresay American Government Departments generally are subjects of circumlocution and red tape, like our own; but the United States has at least a distinction to which we have no parallel: its Pharmacopœia is published at stated intervals, it is constantly under revision, and the Government shares in the work, paying for much of it.

The Kelp Industry.

A correspondent of "The Times" discusses the possibilities of a revival of this industry, which has been in low water for many years, since iodine from South American caliche has competed with iodine from kelp. The correspondent is optimistic, because he sees possibilities in the

potash salts, "given modern methods of treatment," and sums up the situation thus:

The markets for potash salts and ammonia are large and increasing ones, these substances being valuable artificial fertilisers, and a good demand exists for ammonia for use in refrigerating plants. A feature of interest is the extensive sale on the Continent of Norwegian kainit, a product of kelp which contains 23 to 24 per cent. of potassium sulphate, similar, it may be observed, to the natural kainit of Stassfurt, which is largely sold for agricultural purposes. The market for iodine, contrary to what is usually supposed, does not appear to be entirely controlled by a nitrate syndicate. The exports of iodine from Japan to Europe have been steadily increasing, and a permanent export trade built up. Acetate of lime has a ready sale for the manufacture of acetone, the importance of which in explosives manufacture has been referred to. The commercial situation for kelp products is on the whole favourable, and it is recognised that they must be refined to the same extent as those from other sources. Markets are available which hardly existed in the early days of the industry, and the renewed attempts to make kelp manufacture of commercial importance may therefore receive a fair measure of support. The methods of evaporation and crystallisation must be the most modern, and plant erected should be designed, as in Germany, to economise fuel and steam; moreover, the processes must be subject to analytical and scientific control throughout. The scale of operations for commercial success must of necessity be comparatively large, but the industry is most favourably situated as regards raw material. The supplies are inexhaustible, and practically the whole of the north-eastern shores of Europe are being continually fed by the Gulf Stream with those marine plants which contain the largest proportions of mineral constituents of value.

These remarks savour of the prospectus-writer; for, as a matter of fact, the present is no more favourable a time than has been any during the past four decades for putting the kelp industry on a more profitable basis. The late Mr. E. C. C. Stanford took every grain of possibility other than iodine out of kelp, and he left little to be done in the art of wooing wealth from seaweed.

International Congress of Applied Chemistry.

There are now 683 papers definitely promised to the twenty-four sections of the Congress which is to be held at Washington and New York from September 4 to 13. The papers in the Section (VIII. B) Pharmaceutical Chemistry contributed by American workers are as follows:

- "Wood-tar Creosote," by Professor Samuel P. Sadtler.
- "Emulsionising in Alkaloidal Assaying," by Professor G. H. Meeker.
- "Purification of Alkaloidal Precipitates," by Professor Lucius E. Sayre.
- "Sphacelic Acid," by Professor W. T. Wenzell.
- "The Action of Heat on Starch," by Professor Henry Kraemer.
- "Organo-Phosphorus Compound in Taka-Diastase," by Dr. Jokichi Takamine and Mr. Keizo Wooyenaka.
- "Analysis of Oil of Bitter Almond and Benzaldehyde," by Dr. Francis D. Dodge.
- "The Thallioquin Reaction," by Professor Charles H. LaWall.
- "Quinine Alkaloid and Its Compounds," by Dr. G. L. Schaefer.
- "Arsenites of Alkaloids," by A. C. Mangold, Ph.G., B.C.
- "Oil of Croton," by F. D. Dodge.
- "Assay of Cinchona-bark," by Dr. A. R. L. Dohme and Dr. Herrmann Englehardt.
- "Colloidal Metals and Their Fate in the Body," by Joseph L. Turner, Ph.D., and Dr. Otto Schoebel.
- "Improvements in Drug Assays," by Professor F. X. Moerk.
- "Estimation of Citric Acid in Commercial Calcium Citrate," by Virgil Coblenz, Ph.D.
- "The Potency of First Year Cultivated Digitalis-leaves as Indicated by Physiological Assay," by F. A. Miller, B.S., and W. F. Baker, B.S., M.D.
- "The Alkaloidal Content of Individual Plants of *Datura Stramonium* and *D. Tatula*," by G. A. Miller and J. W. Meader.
- "Study of American-grown Indian Cannabis," by F. A. Miller, B.S., and C. R. Eckler.

Papers should be in the hands of the American Committee before June 30 to ensure that they be printed before the Congress.

Preserving Eggs.

It is a well-known fact that several chemicals ingested by the mouth reappear in certain secretions—e.g., milk—and for this reason the administration of a number of drugs to nursing women is contra-indicated. Recently it has been demonstrated that the ovarian egg-membranes permit the passage of certain dyestuffs, thus the fat-soluble dye Sudan III. administered to a hen appears in the yolk of the egg. Dr. Oscar Riddle ("Science," December 22, 1911) has carried out a number of experiments to establish the migration and elimination of certain preservatives, particularly hexamethylenetetramine, upon whose permeability in the organism depends the therapeutic use of this formaldehyde compound. It was found that on administering hexamethylenetetramine to laying hens the compound was able to permeate the egg-membranes, whereupon it undergoes decomposition in the eggs in which it is deposited, and thus acts as a preservative. It was proved that the time which ordinarily intervenes between the fresh and the unpalatable egg was lengthened by the preliminary administration of this drug to the laying hen. This is, indeed, a case of the "natural" production of eggs "capable of maintaining themselves against the ravages of time and the decomposing influence of temperature." Experiments with other preservatives, such as sodium salicylate and sodium benzoate, were not so conclusive, although it was found that the eggs of hens thus dosed withstood summer temperature better than did the untreated control-eggs. Commenting on the above results, the "Journal of the American Medical Association," under the title "When the Hen Embalms her Eggs," says:

"We wonder what Dr. Wiley will do with a hen that embalms her own eggs. By the aid of science, it seems, she can now do it, and, from what we know of this perverse fowl, we fear she will do it. Such a discovery as this can scarcely elude the grasp of the astute poultry-producers and egg-embalmers. Will it be applied practically, and, if so, will its effects be pernicious or beneficent? Shall we be poisoned by both the ham and the eggs, or will it now become possible for every farmer to stock his own storage warehouse and hold down the winter prices on hen fruit?"

Speculation in Oils.

As one reads through the semi-annual reports of two of the leading houses in France and Germany, one cannot fail to be struck by the statement made again and again that the advance in price of a particular oil or perfumery product has been the result of speculation. There was a time when the variation in the prices of essential oils and allied products was based almost entirely upon the law of supply and demand, but apparently that no longer obtains, and heavy speculations have been indulged in in recent years in lemon and bergamot oil, lavender oil, otto of rose, and other staple products of the perfumery industry. Now, although this may mean a considerable profit for those who may be on the right side in such speculative operations, yet we are inclined to think that it creates an extremely bad position for the producer of and dealer in these oils, because there is a natural tendency under such uncertain conditions for users to look for substitutes which can be produced at comparatively stable prices, and which can replace, at any rate in part, these oils which are the subject of so much chance. Before, therefore, important industries become really damaged by these uncertain conditions, we venture to enter a strong protest, and to express the hope that this speculative mania may be restricted.—*Perfumery and Essential Oil Record*.

NEW CANADIAN COMPANIES.—A company has been formed in Canada, with a capital of \$500,000 (about 102,800*l.*), to manufacture wood-alcohol, acetate of lime, and other wood by-products, and to import, manufacture, distil, and deal in chemicals, spirits, explosives, etc.—Two undertakings have been amalgamated, with a capital of \$2,000,000 (about 411,100*l.*), for the manufacture of soaps, soap-products, perfumes, oils, essences, chemicals, etc.

The Fairchild Lectures.

III.—Synthesis of the Terpenes.

THE second and concluding lecture on terpene syntheses by Professor W. H. Perkin, F.R.S., was delivered in the Pharmaceutical Society's lecture-theatre at 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on May 23. The attendance was the smallest so far in the series of lectures, the highly technical character of the proceedings no doubt being



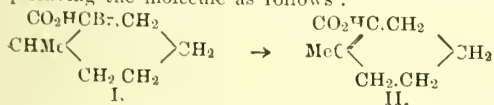
MR. SAMUEL W. FAIRCHILD.

responsible for this. The chair was taken by the President, Mr. C. B. Allen. Among those present were Mr. Samuel W. Fairchild, of New York, who made this post-graduate series of lectures a possibility; Professor A. W. Crossley, Mr. H. Deane, Dr. M. O. Forster, Professor H. G. Greenish, Mr. E. F. Harrison, Mr. A. E. Holden, Mr. W. L. Howie, Mr. Peter MacEwan, Mr. E. J. Parry, Dr. F. B. Power, and Mr. J. C. Umney. The lecture

formed another brilliant exposition of the author's power of lucid condensation of a complicated subject.

The terpenes considered were the *o* and *m* series, their synthesis following generally upon the lines which were seen to be so successful in the *p* series—the proper acid being converted by magnesium methyl iodide into the corresponding menthenol, and this by dehydration into the menthadiene. The initial difficulty lay in preparing the proper acid of known constitution, this sometimes necessitating an open-chain compound being the starting-point of the synthesis. We summarise the lecture below.

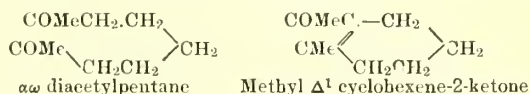
Considerable interest attaches to the *o* series of menthenols and menthadienes because they are not found in essential oils, but have only been prepared synthetically. Sylvestrene appears to be the only terpene of the *m*-menthadiene series found in nature. A table of the six possible *o*-menthenols with the hydroxyl group in the (8) position was thrown on the screen, all of which had been prepared artificially with the exception of Δ^2 menthenol (8). These alcohols are all viscid oils distilling at a pressure of 30 mm. at about 110°—some 8° lower than the corresponding *p* compounds. They have a pronounced penetrating odour recalling a mixture of terpineol and menthol. The five corresponding menthadienes obtained from the menthenols by dehydration are colourless oils distilling at normal pressure some 6° or 8° below the corresponding terpenes in the *p* series. Conjugated double linkages are contained in $\Delta^{1:8(9)}$ -*o*-menthadiene, and this is again associated with rise in the boiling-point and a higher molecular refraction. The preparation of Δ^1 , Δ^5 , and Δ^6 menthenols was selected from the long and complicated series as specially instructive. The first process for preparing Δ^1 -*o*-menthenol (8) consisted in reducing *o*-toluic acid with sodium amalgam in alcohol to 1-methyl cyclohexan-2-carboxylic acid. On treatment with phosphorus pentachloride and then with bromine α -bromohydro-*o*-toluic acid is obtained, which on treatment with alkalis loses hydrobromic acid, the hydrogen next the methyl group leaving the molecule as follows:



That this compound has the formula (II.) is shown by it yielding on oxidation γ -acetoxybutyric acid. It yields

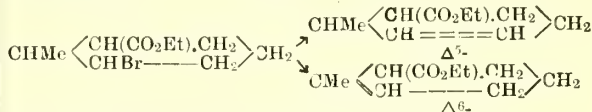
Δ^1 -*o*-menthenol (8) with magnesium methyl iodide, and this on dehydration gives Δ^1 , $\Delta^{8(9)}$ -*o*-menthadiene.

The starting-point in the second process was the condensation of the sodium derivative of acetoacetic ester with acetylbutyl bromide, when a di-acetyl pentane carboxylic ester is formed with the elimination of sodium bromide. The ester on treatment with dilute alcoholic potash gives $\alpha\omega$ -diacetylpentane, which, on solution in concentrated sulphuric acid, undergoes a curious internal condensation into methyl Δ^1 cyclohexene-2-ketone:

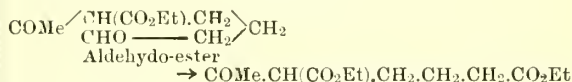


The ketone gave with magnesium methyl iodide a menthenol and a menthadiene identical in physical and chemical respects with those obtained from the acid synthesised in the first method.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in preparing the Δ^5 and Δ^6 compounds, as 6-hydroxy-*o*-toluic acid is not obtainable from *o*-toluic acid by any convenient process. It was prepared in quantity by fusing naphthalene-1,3,5 trisulphonic acid with caustic potash. The 6-hydroxy-*o*-toluic acid was reduced by sodium and alcohol to 1-methyl-cyclohexan-6-ol-2-carboxylic acid. The hydroxyl is replaced with bromine and the ester then digested with diethylaniline, when hydrogen bromide is eliminated in two directions, giving a mixture of ethyl 1-methyl- Δ^5 and 1-methyl- Δ^6 -cyclohexene carboxylates:



The acids obtained on hydrolysis are liquid, and cannot be separated by fractional crystallisation of their salts. The only way left seemed to be fractional esterification and hydrolysis, which had been used with success by Haworth and the lecturer for separating the methyl Δ^4 - and the methyl Δ^5 -cyclopentene carboxylic acids; the acid containing the group $> \text{C} : \text{C} \text{Me}$ —esterifying less readily and the ester when prepared being more difficult to hydrolyse. By repeating the process a great number of times it was believed that an almost complete separation of the Δ^5 and Δ^6 acids was ultimately accomplished. Their constitution was proved by oxidising the Δ^5 acid with potassium permanganate, when pentane- $\beta\gamma\epsilon$ -tricarboxylic acid was obtained. It was hardly necessary to prove the constitution of the Δ^6 -acid, but the ester was treated with ozone in chloroform solution, when an aldehydo-ester was produced which, on further oxidation with chromic acid, gave a ketonic ester, derived from acetoacetic ester and adipic acid:

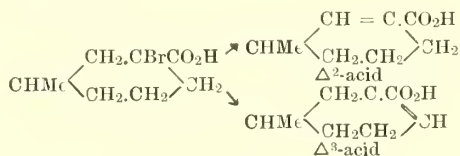


Therefore the acid could only be the Δ^6 -modification.

The remaining *m*-cymene derivatives were next dealt with, the lecturer stating that to him the chemical development of these substances was, on account of their complexity, more fascinating than either of the other series. The chemistry of the *m*-cymene compounds is as complete as that of the dipentene group. The *m*-menthenols are viscid colourless oils with boiling-points clustering around 106° at 30 mm. pressure. Their penetrating odour again resembles terpineol and menthol. On dissolving a *m*-menthenol in acetic anhydride and adding one drop of concentrated sulphuric acid, an intense blue-violet coloration is produced which is characteristic of the whole series of *m*-menthenols and *m*-menthadienes, and which is not shown in either the *o* or the *p* series. The menthadienes divide into two sections: $\Delta^{1:8(9)}$, $\Delta^{4:1(9)}$, $\Delta^{5:8(9)}$, $\Delta^{6:8(9)}$ with boiling-points at normal pressure of 176° and a molecular refraction of about 45.3, and $\Delta^{2:8(9)}$ and $\Delta^{3:8(9)}$, which are conjugated terpenes with higher

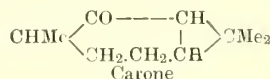
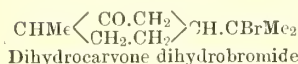
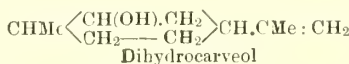
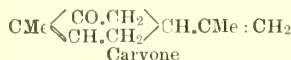
boiling-points (182°) and a greater molecular refractive index (about 46.5). The latter, again, only combine with one molecule of bromine and one molecule of halogen acid.

The method of synthesising the Δ^2 - and Δ^3 -*m*-menthenols (8), carried out in conjunction with Dr. Tattersall, consisted in reducing *m*-toluic acid to the hexane acid with sodium and isoamyl alcohol. On brominating this and treating with alkalis, hydrogen bromide is eliminated in two directions, giving two 1-methyl- Δ -cyclohexene carboxylic acids:



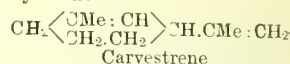
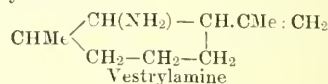
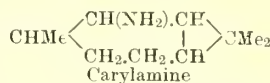
The mixture of acids was separated by fractional crystallisation of the calcium salts, the Δ^2 -acid being slightly less soluble in water. By this means much of the liquid Δ^2 -acid was obtained and a little solid Δ^3 -acid; the former, on oxidation first with permanganate and then with chromic acid, yielding α -methyl-adipic acid and the latter β -methyl-adipic acid, which proves their constitution. The esters of these acids were converted into the corresponding Δ^2 -*m*-menthenol (8) and Δ^3 -*m*-menthenol (8). The menthadienes were also prepared from these menthenols. A less tedious method of preparing Δ^3 -*m*-menthenol was discovered in conjunction with Mr. Luff, 1-methyl-cyclohexan-4-one, which is easily obtainable, being converted by means of sodamide and carbon dioxide into 1-methyl-cyclohexan-4-one-3-carboxylic acid, on reduction with sodium amalgam 1-methyl-cyclohexan-4-ol-3-carboxylic acid is obtained, which on dehydration gives the proper acid (1-methyl- Δ^3 -cyclohexene-3-carboxylic acid). Having some 200 grams of this racemic acid it was resolved by means of the brucine salts and *l*-menthylamine into a *d*-acid of rotation $[\alpha]_D +40.1^\circ$ and a *l*-acid with $[\alpha]_D -35.8^\circ$, thus showing resolution was not complete. The active Δ^3 -*m*-menthenols prepared therefrom had rotations of $[\alpha]_D +20.9^\circ$ and $[\alpha]_D -18.5^\circ$. The rotations of the corresponding $\Delta^{3:8(9)}$ -*m*-menthadienes were $[\alpha]_D +17.5^\circ$ and $[\alpha]_D -12.9^\circ$. It is thus probable that racemisation occurs.

The study of sylvestrene (Atterberg, 1867) and carvestrene (Baeyer, 1894), belonging to the *m*-series of terpenes, was next entered upon. Baeyer first supplied a proof that these were *m*-derivatives by a method which is applicable to the diagnosis of any *m*-cymene derivative. When carvestrene dihydrobromide is treated with excess of bromine in the presence of iodine, and the product reduced by zinc dust, and alcoholic hydrochloric acid, *m*-cymene itself is yielded. A rapid sketch was then given of Baeyer's brilliant researches on carvone which resulted in the making of carvestrene. Carvone from oil of caraway is reduced by sodium in alcohol to dihydrocarveol, which on oxidation with chromic acid yields dihydrocarvone, whose hydrobromide on treating with alcoholic potash at 0° is readily converted into carone owing to the remarkable formation of a trimethylene ring:



Carone-oxime yields, on reduction with sodium and alcohol, carylamine, and this on evaporation with dilute acid is converted into vestrylamine by disruption of the cyclopropane ring. Lastly vestrylamine hydrochloride

readily decomposes on distillation, yielding carvestrene and ammonium chloride:

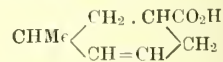
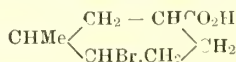


This formula is unquestionably that of carvestrene. It boils at 178° and gives a dihydrochloride (m.p. 52.5°) and a dihydrobromide (m.p. 48°-50°), which render identification easy. It occupies the same position in the *m* series as dipentene in the *p* series, and must for this reason be considered one of the most important of the terpenes. Its synthesis was accomplished from *m*-hydroxybenzoic acid, which was reduced to cyclohexanol-3-carboxylic acid, and the latter then oxidised to cyclohexanone-3-carboxylic acid. The ester of this acid reacts with magnesium methyl iodide, yielding a product which on hydrolysis gives methyl cyclohexanol-3-carboxylic acid and a neutral oil. The hydroxy acid decomposes on distillation under reduced pressure, with elimination of water and formation of a lactone (cis-1-methyl-1-cyclohexanol-3-carboxylic acid), which hydrobromic acid converts into cis-1-bromo-1-methyl-cyclohexane-3-carboxylic acid. This on decomposition with pyridine gives 1-methyl- Δ^1 -cyclohexene-3-carboxylic acid, with the elimination of hydrogen bromide. The constitution of this acid is controlled by its oxidation to adipic acid. The lecturer remarked that there is the possibility of a certain amount of Δ^6 acid being formed, but it could be taken that the acid consisted essentially of the Δ^1 modification. The ethyl ester on treatment with magnesium methyl iodide gave dihydro-carvestrenol or Δ^1 -*m*-menthenol (8)—

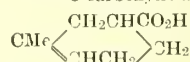


—which was converted into the terpene, carvestrene, by dehydration with potassium hydrogen sulphate. Comparison of the synthetic product with Baeyer's preparation left no doubt as to the similarity of the two.

The next synthesis was that of iso-carvestrene or $\Delta^{6:3(9)}$ -*m*-menthadiene, carried out by Mr. Kenneth Fisher and the lecturer. Ethyl pentane- γ -tricarboxylate reacts with sodium, yielding ethyl cyclohexanone-2:4-dicarboxylate, and the sodium derivative of this ester is quantitatively converted, on treatment with methyl iodide, into ethyl-1-methyl-cyclohexan-6-one-1:3-dicarboxylate, which on hydrolysis with dilute hydrochloric acid gives 1-methyl-cyclohexan-6-one-3-carboxylic acid. This is reduced with sodium amalgam to 1-methyl-cyclohexan-6-ol-3-carboxylic acid, the hydroxyl group replaced by bromine, and the product digested with diethylaniline, when the possible elimination of hydrogen bromide is as follows:



1-methyl- Δ^1 -cyclohexene-3-carboxylic acid



1-methyl- Δ^3 -cyclohexene-3-carboxylic acid

It was found that the product consisted of the Δ^6 acid, which was converted in the usual manner into dihydroiso-carvestrenol or Δ^6 -*m*-menthenol. It is remarkable that dihydroiso-carvestrenol and dihydrocarvestrenol give identical dihydrochlorides and dihydrobromides. Similarly in regard to the synthesis of sylvestrene it is difficult to say whether it is the Δ^1 or Δ^6 compound, as it may be one or the other, while experiment seems to point to a mixture.

Sylvestrene obtained by the fractional distillation of Swedish turpentine was dissolved in ether and the ethereal solution saturated with hydrochloric acid, the ether distilled off, and the product left for a long time in a cold place (it was sent to Northern Siberia) to crystallise. The crystalline sylvestrene dihydrochloride thus obtained melts at 72° and has a rotation of $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 22^{\circ}$. On distilling with aniline the sylvestrene obtained does not have a constant boiling-point, distilling between 176° and 180° , and has a varying rotation from $[\alpha]_D^{60} + 60^{\circ}$ to over $[\alpha]_D^{80} + 80^{\circ}$. Sylvestrene thus probably consists of two modifications, while other substances may be present.

The synthesis of optically active sylvestrene was accomplished after many unsuccessful experiments. Its characteristic properties are a boiling-point of from 176° to 180° and a rotatory power of $[\alpha]_D^{60} + 60^{\circ}$ to $[\alpha]_D^{80} + 80^{\circ}$. The dihydrochloride melts at 72° and has a rotation of $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 22^{\circ}$. The 1-methyl- Δ^1 -cyclohexene-3-carboxylic acid formed during the carvotrene synthesis (see above) was resolved. It gave a Δ^1 -*m*-menthenol (8), which, although obtained from an acid with a rotation of $[\alpha]_D^{70} + 70^{\circ}$, was optically inactive. It was supposed that racemisation had occurred, but, more astonishing still, the hydrochloride obtained therefrom was sylvestrene dihydrochloride, with a rotation of $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 22^{\circ}$, and on distillation with aniline synthetic sylvestrene— $[\alpha]_D^{60} + 60^{\circ}$ —was yielded. A second specimen was sent to Professor Pope, who, with his more delicate polarimeter, reported that the menthenol was not quite inactive: it had a rotation of rather less than $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 2^{\circ}$. Still, it is not possible to say whether sylvestrene is the Δ^1 or Δ^6 isomeride. With Dr. Howarth the experimental possibilities are being investigated, an attempt being made to prepare the Δ^6 acid, which if it gives a Δ^6 -*m*-menthenol (8) with a rotation of only $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 2^{\circ}$ will show the double linkage is in the 6 position. It will also follow that it occupies the same position in sylvestrene and prove the rotation of one modification of sylvestrene.

In conclusion Professor Perkin said the lectures were necessarily incomplete, but they gave a brief outline of the synthesis of the terpenes and showed upon what lines of research further important substances could be obtained. He thanked the audience for the close attention to what is, after all, a complicated subject.

NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

Caspari, C., and Rusby, H. H. *The National Dispensatory*. 2nd edit. 36s. net. (Churchill.)

Hooton, Wm., and Mathias, A. *Introductory Course of Mechanics and Physics, for Technical Students*. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 156. 1s. 6d. (Clive.)

The Medical Annual: a Year-book of Treatment and Practitioners' Index. 1912. Thirtieth year. (Bristol: John Wright & Co. 8s. 6d. net.) [The general index to this volume extends to thirty-two pages of double-column matter, and is the best indication of the value of the 700 pages of carefully collated information which follows it. It is a wonderful exposition of the medical literature of 1911, combined with *résumés* by more than a score of specialists in as many departments of the progress of medical science and practice during the year. Part I. of the Annual is entitled "The Dictionary of Materia Medica and Therapeutics," and is prefaced with a review of therapeutic progress by Dr. Frank J. Charteris. Part II. is "The Dictionary of Treatment," and extends to nearly 500 pages. This is the part which dispensing chemists will find of special service, as it saves them wading through many medical journals, and is a permanent and sufficient record. Part III. is notable as including medico-legal and forensic medicine and other matters related to public health, including an exposition of the National Insurance Act by Mr. H. Wippell Gadd, F.C.S. The Annual is splendidly illustrated.]

Wilkinson, W. Camac. *Tuberculin in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Tuberculosis*. 9x5½. Pp. 516. 21s. net. (Nisbet.)

ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS.

Brief Records.

Cheltenham, Gloucester, and District Pharmacists' Association.—Mr. W. J. Uglov Woolcock visited this Association on Thursday, May 23, and under the presidency of Mr. M. C. Mansbridge a conference on the National Insurance Act and pharmaceutical organisation took place.

Harrogate Pharmaceutical Association.—On May 17 a special meeting was held at the Salisbury Hotel, Mr. Geo. Pattison (President) in the chair. Mr. R. C. Walshaw, of Huddersfield, gave an address on the *National Insurance Act*, and a discussion followed. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Walshaw.—On May 24 the annual general meeting was held, Mr. Geo. Pattison (President) presiding. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and adopted. Mr. Percy Ridge was elected *President*, Mr. Geo. Pattison *Vice-President*, and Mr. C. B. Southwell and Mr. Geo. Fern were re-elected *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer* respectively. Messrs. Eynon, Windemir, Atkinson, and McMillan were elected as a *Committee*, with Mr. Hines as *Auditor*. A vote of thanks was accorded the officers for their past services.—On Whit Monday the second annual picnic took place, the members proceeding by motor char-à-banc to Bolton Abbey, where a most delightful afternoon and evening were spent, the party reaching home at 9.45 p.m.

Torquay Pharmacists' Association.—The annual meeting was held at the Pavilion Hotel on May 23. There were present Mr. H. F. Bourne (in the chair), Messrs. Taylor, Knight, Newlyn, Horner (Vice-President), Douglas, Dunsford (Hon. Treasurer), Smollett, Burgoyne, March, and Ventham (Hon. Secretary). The Treasurer's report, which was adopted, showed a balance. Mr. J. Taylor, J.P., was elected *President* for the coming year. Mr. R. Horner was re-elected *Vice-President*, Mr. T. W. Dunsford *Treasurer*, and Mr. Ventham *Hon. Secretary*. Votes of thanks were passed to the retiring officers for their services. The meeting then dealt with the question of the *Weekly Half-holiday*, and a resolution was put forward by Mr. Knight "That all the chemists of Torquay agree to close on one afternoon a week from 1 p.m. Closing to mean pulling down the blinds, affixing door-blind, and shutting the door." Mr. Horner proposed as an amendment "That a compulsory closing order for Wednesday afternoons be applied for." This was carried by a small majority.

Wiltshire Pharmaceutical Association.—The annual meeting was held at Thornton on May 29, Mr. David Gilmour, Dunfermline (President), in the chair. The Secretary read his annual report, which dealt with the steps that had been taken by the Association in reference to the National Insurance Act. Mr. Stewart presented the financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of 11. 6s. 1d. The report and statement were received and adopted. The election of officers then took place as follows: Mr. James Bisset, Burntisland, was elected *President*; Mr. Charles Stewart, Kirkcaldy, was re-elected *Secretary*. The following gentlemen were appointed members of *Council*: Messrs. Adamson, Storrar, Loudon, R. Robertson, McCorquodale, Dow, Yule, Kirk, Robertson (St. Andrews), Robertson (Cuppar). Correspondence was read from the Dundee Chemists' Association inviting co-operation in a scheme of federation. The Association agreed to send delegates to confer with the Dundee Association on the matter. Mr. J. Rutherford Hill was present, and gave an explanation of the present position with regard to the *Dispensing Tariff* under the National Insurance Act. The subject was down for discussion by the Association, but for want of time this was limited to questions. The feeling was expressed that in framing the tariff the tendency to submit prices on the lowest scale of remuneration should be resisted, and that an adequate return should be insisted on for such important services.

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held on May 22, when there were present Messrs. Dunn (in the chair), Forster, F. W. Thompson, Phillips, M. R. Warner, Wilcock, Sadler, Hodge, Schofield, Buckley, Stanway, and Coleman. The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. F. J. Gibson congratulating him upon his re-election to the Pharmaceutical Council, and to Mr. W. G. Cross expressing the regrets of the Association upon his defeat. The arrangement of the annual excursion to Holt-Fleet was left in the hands of the Secretary, the date being either June 20 or 27. Mr. F. W. Thompson, pharmacist at the General Hospital, then gave a paper on the preparation and employment of "606." Mr. Thompson uses the following method of preparing salvarsan for use: The contents of one ampoule are emptied into a porcelain dish, and a sufficient quantity of 15-per-cent. caustic-soda solution is added to make an alkaline solution; for 0.5 gram about 1 c.c. is

necessary. The soda solution is dropped directly on to the powder and the two well mixed with a glass rod until the powder is dissolved. The solution is then diluted with sterile normal solution, transferred to a graduated cylinder, and made up to the required quantity with the normal saline, the usual strength being 0.1 gram in 50 c.c. The solution is made immediately before use. So far as Mr. Thompson's experience goes, no serious results have followed the use of this remedy.

British Optical Association.—The annual meeting was held at the offices of the Association, at 199 Piccadilly, London, W., on May 15. Mr. S. P. Leighton (President) was in the chair, and, in presenting the report of the Council for the year ending April 30, said that there are at present 681 members on the register, exclusive of the enrolment list. This is a not increase of fifty-eight members. There have been during the year two examinations in the Dioptric grade in London and Manchester respectively, and one examination each in Glasgow, Leeds, and Bristol. There were 201 candidates, of whom seventy-seven passed. Two Fellowship examinations have been held in London and one in Manchester; for these examinations there were twelve candidates, four of whom passed. The new syllabus comes into operation at the next examination. Mr. W. Ettles, F.R.C.S., is an additional examiner. The Council have resolved that the examination should not be merely of the kind that will adapt itself to the education that the optician of the present day has, but should be rather of such a nature as will create a new type of optician, and in laying down the standard of examination will compel the standard of education to follow in its course. The financial position of the Association has improved; the deficits of the past two years have been wiped out, and a balance remained of 150%. It is hoped before long to be in a position to ask again for the grant of a charter. The following were elected to fill the vacancies on the Council: Messrs. G. W. Meisner, W. M. Charnley, A. S. Taylor, R. G. Orr, W. Staver, F. G. Huntley, W. B. Barker, and J. Harwood. In the discussion that followed the adoption of the financial report it was recommended that as soon as possible the "Bulletin" be again published weekly. An extraordinary meeting was held the same day for the purpose of passing resolutions altering the articles of association, and the further meeting for confirming the resolutions is to be held on June 4.

Forfarshire Chemists' Association.—The annual meeting was held in the Queen's Hotel, Blairgowrie, on May 22. Mr. John Gray presiding. A communication from Mr. J. R. Hill was read, regretting his unavoidable absence.



Mr. Harley, the new Vice-President, is sitting on the root of the tree, and behind him is Mr. Peebles, the new President. The other gentlemen are (from left to right): Mr. Bennett, Mr. G. Lindsay (kneeling), Mr. J. H. Thomson, Mr. Hunt, Mr. J. Whyte, Mr. Chas. Cummings, Mr. W. Cummings, and Mr. John Anderson. The photograph was taken at Craighall by Mr. Petrie, of Blairgowrie.

Mr. Hunt (Secretary) submitted the financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of £l. Thereafter Mr. T. S. Peebles (Lochee) was elected *President*, Mr. T. Harley (Perth) *Vice-President*, and Mr. Hunt *Hon. Secretary* and

Treasurer. The party of twenty-one ladies and gentlemen then sat down to dinner, Mr. Peebles occupying the chair and Mr. Harley acting as croupier. Under the direction of Mr. Petrie the company then drove towards Craighall. Arrived within the grounds, they proceeded along the fine walk overlooking the valley in the direction of the Fog House whence some of the visitors saw for the first time the grandly picturesque view of the mansion which is obtained from this station. On returning to the hotel tea was served, and the opportunity was taken to thank Mr. Petrie, who took charge of the local arrangements. The Hon. Secretary is also to be congratulated on the success of his efforts, which along with the favourable weather contributed to make this one of the most enjoyable excursions of the series.

Northampton Chemists' Association.—The annual meeting was held at the Black Boy Hotel, Northampton, on May 21. Mr. W. Gatehouse presided, and there were also present Messrs. W. McKinnell, Geo. Ingle, D. McKinnell, L. North, A. Armit, Rolfe, Flinton Harris, Clowes, and F. Cowdery (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Cowdery presented the annual report and balance-sheet, which showed a balance to the good of over £l. This was considered very satisfactory. The annual report dealt in detail with the work of the year, and concluded with a reference to the Secretary going to Canada. Mr. Gatehouse, in feeling terms, expressed the great regret all the members felt at Mr. Cowdery's severance from them after so many years' work. He was one of those secretaries, said Mr. Gatehouse, whom it would be difficult to replace. His work in connection with the Association was appreciated by all of them, and in their name he heartily wished Mr. Cowdery the best of health, luck,



MR. F. COWDERY.
[Photo by John Mills.]

and prosperity in Calgary. Mr. W. McKinnell shared in these sentiments, and moved a vote of regret, which was seconded by Mr. Armit and carried unanimously. Mr. Cowdery briefly returned thanks. Subsequently Mr. D. McKinnell, in the name of the Association, asked Mr. Cowdery's acceptance of a small present as a token of their high regard and deep appreciation. In returning thanks, Mr. Cowdery said that he should often think of his old friends in that room and wish to be with them. Mr. F. Cowdery has been in business in Northampton for twenty-five years, and is well known over a wide area. He was active in forming the Northampton and District Chemists' Association, of which he has been Hon. Secretary and Treasurer since its inception in 1900. Another presentation made by Mr. D. McKinnell was to the President (Mr. Gatehouse), on his recent marriage. Mr. McKinnell said that they all knew of Mr. Gatehouse's merits, and he was sure that their best wishes to him and his wife went with the present. Mr. W. McKinnell proposed the health of Mr. Gatehouse, Mr. Armit seconded, and Mr. Flinton Harris, the only bachelor among the chemists present, also spoke. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Mr. Gatehouse briefly replied. On the proposal of Mr. Armit, seconded by Mr. W. McKinnell, Mr. Gatehouse was unanimously re-elected *President*. Mr. F. C. Ashford was re-elected *Vice-President*, and Mr. Flinton Harris was elected to the same office. Mr. Rolfe was elected *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*. The election of Hon. Auditor was deferred until the next meeting. A useful explanation of the Shops Act was given by Mr. Harris, and a short discussion on the Insurance Act followed. A communication was received from the county chemists relative to the "secret meeting" held by them in the county town recently, and of which the Association had had no notification. The letter satisfactorily explained the matter and was approved by the members.

POTASSIUM SALTS IN CALIFORNIA.—In further reference to the discovery of potassium-salts deposits at Borax, or Searle's Lake, in San Bernardino County, California (see *C. & D.*, April 27, index folio 625), the British Vice-Consul at Los Angeles reports that the existence of these deposits has been known for some time past to an English syndicate, which controls the entire territory in which they are situated. It appears that the potash from the bed of Searle's Lake, which is eight to twelve miles in length and four miles at its greatest width, is not of the character of the potash found in Germany—i.e., it is not crystalline, but in solution. In testing the property for potash, wells were sunk at the four corners and also in the middle of the lake to a depth of several hundred feet. It is proposed to build a pipe-line from the lake to tide-water.

POISONING FATALITIES.

TWENTY instances in which poisons have caused death have been chronicled during the past fortnight. Of these eight were due to misadventure.

Ammonia.—Benjamin Aspin (44), Blackburn, died from the effects of ammonia-poisoning. At the inquest the Coroner said that the bottle was properly labelled by the chemist, and that the ammonia must have been taken knowingly. The jury, however, returned a verdict of "Death from ammonia-poisoning," adding there was no evidence to show the state of Aspin's mind.—At the inquest on the thirteen-months-old daughter of George Alfred Ford, of Low Fold, near Bradford, the mother said that the child obtained the poison from a table while her back was turned. The Coroner: "Do you think she could pull the cork out of the bottle?"—"Yes." The Coroner said the label read, "Pure ammonia for domestic purposes." After examination, he observed that the cork in the bottle was too slack. Mr. George Walker, chemist, Birkenhead, who sold the boy the bottle of ammonia, stated that he declined to sell the ammonia in the ordinary 8-oz. medicine-bottle which was sent, but supplied the one produced. Witness said he got the bottle from a manufacturing chemist. The container fulfilled the requirements of the new Act, as it was ribbed downwards and had the word "Poisonous" embossed near the neck. The Coroner observed that the word was not very easy to see. The cork, too, was quite loose, and he was wondering if it was so when sold. Witness said the bottle was soundly corked when he sold it. The Coroner agreed that the bottle was in accordance with regulations. He thought, however, that a red "poison" label would be more efficacious than the bottle in question. The word "Poisonous" was not sufficiently conspicuous. He thought, too, that if the cork had been properly fixed in the bottle the deceased child could not have moved it. Dr. Barelay said that in this instance a red label would have made no difference, as deceased was too young to know its meaning. The Coroner quite agreed with the doctor, and said he did not blame the chemist, because the bottle was just as he bought it, and was in accordance with the regulations. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from misadventure."

Barium Chloride.—Thomas Carey, an employé in the dye-house of South Arthurie Print-works, Barrhead, died through taking a quantity of barium chloride in mistake for a dose of Epsom salts.

Belladonna was the poison used for suicidal purposes by Charlotte Myers, domestic servant, Alderley.

Carbolic Acid.—Robert Copeman, a farmer, of Field Dalling, Norfolk, was accidentally poisoned by drinking carbolic acid from a bottle in mistake for ale.—The death by misadventure of George Darlington (69), gasfitter, Chester, was due to the absorption of carbolic acid from a lotion which had been applied to his legs.—During the inquest on Edward Johnson (38), who committed suicide at Darwen, Mr. E. Raine, chemist and druggist, Bolton Road, Darwen, said he supplied deceased with some laudanum on his stating that he wanted it for his wife, who was suffering from neuralgia. Witness warned him that it was poison, and placed a poison-label on each side of the bottle. The Coroner said he thought deceased had mixed carbolic acid with salad oil in order to make it more palatable, and had previously drunk the laudanum and thrown the bottle away.—At the inquest held at Prestwich on the body of a man in a local park tennis-court, Dr. Stevenson stated that the man must have swallowed from 1 to 2½ oz. of the acid, a quantity sufficient to cause death. The *post-mortem* revealed that deceased had suffered from heart disease. A verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity, the actual cause of death being carbolic-acid poisoning," was returned.—Helen Moir (28), grocer, Gourdon, committed suicide by drinking crude carbolic acid.—Thomas Johnson (67), of Goole, also died from carbolic-acid poisoning. At the inquest an open verdict was found.

Laudanum.—Robert Allan, draper, Dundee, had been taking laudanum for sleeplessness, and died in consequence of taking an overdose.

Lysol was taken with fatal results during a fit of despondency by Georgina Paton (29), the wife of a Dundee mill-worker.

Phosphorus-poisoning caused the death of two Leyton children named Hilda Budd (2) and Ernest Budd (7). It is not known how they obtained the poison or in what form it was taken.

Prussic Acid.—At the inquest held at Wigan on Richard Lewis (44), coachman, Dr. Monks stated that death was due to prussic-acid poisoning. Witness said that he could not understand how Lewis had got hold of the poison. Possibly, being a dog-fancier, he had obtained it from a veterinary surgeon. A verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity" was returned.

The Coroner said the police ought to make inquiries as to how the poison was supplied, and, if possible, take proceedings.

Salt-petre was certified to be the poison which caused the death of John McPhie (68), labourer, at St. Ninians.

Spirit of Salt.—Leah Weinrahe, housekeeper, Mile End, poisoned herself with this corrosive fluid.

Kind Not Stated.—Mr. Robert John Watt, chemist, Croydon, entered his old pharmacy at Southminster, now owned by his brother, Mr. J. Watt, chemist and druggist, Burnham, and took a dose of poison, expiring almost immediately. Deceased, who managed a business at Croydon, had been depressed because his application for another situation had failed. At the inquest a verdict of "Suicide while of unsound mind" was returned.—A German herbalist named Gustav Neumann (73) was found dying in his bedroom, in Portway, West Ham. It was stated at the inquest that death was due to a corrosive poison, and a verdict of "Death by misadventure" was found. It is thought that deceased had "an elixir of life," apparently dilute phosphoric acid, supplemented at times with syrup of buchu, and took the poison through picking up the wrong bottle.—At Birmingham, Alfred Moseley poisoned himself because he had been ordered to destroy his dog.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. SAMUEL W. FAIRCHILD concluded his visit to Europe on Wednesday, when he sailed for New York.

MR. G. CLARIDGE DRUCE, M.A., F.L.S. Oxford, has been elected Vice-President of the Botanical Congress which will be held in London in 1914.

MR. P. F. ROWSELL, J.P., has been elected by the Exeter Chamber of Commerce as a delegate to the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire to be held in London during June.

DR. F. G. DONNAN, Muspratt Professor of Physical Chemistry in the University of Liverpool, has declined the offer of the Chair of Chemistry at University College, London, in succession to Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B.

SIR EDWARD THORPE, C.B., F.R.S., having retired from the directorship of the Chemical Laboratories of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington, is leaving London to reside at Salcombe, South Devon.

MR. T. H. W. IDRIS, High Sheriff of Merionethshire, has appointed the Rev. H. Carnyw Williams, D.D., of the Baptist Church, Corwen, as his chaplain. This is the first time on record that a Baptist minister has held such a position in Wales.

MR. JAMES BURRELL WILLIAMSON, who has just been appointed as Medical Officer of the Tynemouth Union Workhouse Infirmary, is the son of Mr. Joseph B. Williamson, chemist and druggist, of Messrs. Williamson & Hogg, North Shields.

MR. ALEC BOYES, who has been for many years with Messrs. Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd., is on June 1 entering the service of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., 60 Bartholomew Close, London, E.C., as a member of their town representative staff.

MR. H. ANTCLIFFE (Secretary of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society), dispenser to the Sheffield Board of Guardians, is henceforth to be called "Pharmacist and Dispenser." A second assistant to him is to be appointed. He must be qualified under the Pharmacy Act.

MR. W. SWAN, chemist and druggist, manager for six years at the branch of Boots, Ltd., Western Road, Brighton, has been presented by the staff with a massive silver rose-bowl and an illuminated address, on leaving to become manager of the branch at Princes Street, Edinburgh.

MR. R. E. CHARLES, chemist, has resigned his membership of the Brecon Chamber of Trade owing to ill-health. The Chamber is sending a letter of sympathy to Mr. Charles, thanking him for his past services and stating that the members are glad to learn he is on the road to recovery.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., May 30.

THE Whitsuntide holidays and the strike have reduced business to a negative character this week, and great inconvenience has been caused to the mercantile community owing to the difficulty in obtaining delivery of goods. The few changes in prices which have taken place include a reduction in codeine and salts. Bromides are firm, with business at the official rates. Milk-sugar is tending dearer owing to the greater dependence on European supplies. Saffron has substantially advanced, and the outlook is for still higher prices. Acetic acid remains firm, and tartaric acid continues very scarce, makers being only able to deliver very limited quantities. Chamomiles and gentian are firm; lime-juice is very scarce. Lemon oil has an easy tendency. Cod-liver oil maintains its steadier position, but lacks business. Turpentine is cheaper. The principal changes are as under:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Buchu	Eucalyptus	Copper sulphate	Apomorphine hyd.
Canary-seed	oil	Honey	Codeine and salts
Caraway-seed	Milk-sugar	(Jam, and	Ipecacuanha
Cardamoms	Potash	H-yti.)	Sarsaparilla
Linseed oil	prussiate	Lemon oil	(c.i.f.)
Saffron		Menthol	Turpentine

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, May 30.—The catch of cod for the whole of Norway since the beginning of the season amounts to 87,278,000 against 58,501,000 in the corresponding period of 1911. The yield of steam-refined oil is now 65,399 hectolitres, against 39,059 hectolitres in the same period of last year. Fishing continues satisfactory at Finmarken, and the market is quiet at 60s. per barrel c.i.f. terms.

NEW YORK, May 30.—Business in drugs is moderate. Opium is 25c. per lb. lower at \$6.00 for druggists' in single cases. Buchu is 5c. higher at \$1.45 for round. Cartagena ipecacuanha is easier at \$1.95. Cascara sagrada is steady at 8½c. Copaiba is firmer at 52c. for Central and South American. Peppermint oil in tins is easier, but quotably unaltered at \$2.85 per lb.

London Markets.

ACETIC ACID.—Deliveries have been practically unobtainable from the wharves owing to the strike, and for small lots urgently wanted dealers claimed to have made 39s. for 99 to 100 per cent. glacial. Agents quote 37s. to 38s.

ANISEED.—Russian is quoted at 26s. per cwt. on the spot.

APOMORPHINE.—The makers have reduced the price of hydrochloride a further 4s. 3d. per oz. to 34s. 9d. per oz. net.

BALSAM CANADA is scarce, and stocks in primary markets have considerably diminished.

BERGAMOT OIL is unaltered at from 27s. 9d. up to 30s. per lb. c.i.f., according to shipper, and on the spot 27s. will buy a good brand.

BROMIDES.—The advanced prices announced by the makers are now in force, and in one quarter several tons

have been booked. Second-hand holders only offer a limited quantity, as the bulk of cheaper stocks held by them had been cleared out some time previous to the advance.

CADE OIL.—Genuine is quoted 36s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. terms.

CAMPHOR OIL.—White Japanese oil is quoted at 45s. on the spot.

CANARY-SEED is higher, with business in Turkish and ordinary Morocco at 50s. to 51s., and good Morocco at 53s. to 54s. per qr., but holders are now asking an advance of 1s. per qr. Sales of new crop Turkish for September-October shipment have been made at 45s. per qr., c.i.f. terms.

CARAWAY-SEED is quoted at 34s. 6d. per cwt. for fair Dutch on the spot.

CHAMOMILES.—There appears to be nothing available on the spot below 130s. to 132s. 6d. per cwt. for fair white but small flowers, about the only quality available.

CINCHONA.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on June 13 will consist of 10,712 packages Ledgeriana, hybrid, etc., 539 cases and 746 bales Succirubra, or 11,997 packages in all, weighing about 1,038,738 kilos. The first-hand stock at Amsterdam on May 23 consisted of 3,165 packages Government and 17,670 packages private bark, these figures including the first-hand quantities to be offered at auction.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar are firm but quiet, fair quality offering on the spot at 7½d., and for August-October delivery business has been done at 7½d. and buyers, and for May-July shipment 7½d. has been paid for October-December.

COCA-LEAVES.—At the auction to be held at Amsterdam on June 13, 1,642 packages, weighing 85,361 kilos., will be offered.

CODEINE.—The makers of codeine and salts announce a reduction ranging from 9d. to 1s. 4d. per oz., and now quote as follows:

	Small Lots.	Contracts over 3 months.
	35 oz.	100 oz.
Pure cryst. ...	17s. 4d.	16s. 11d. ... 16s. 8d.
„ precip. ...	17s. 4d.	16s. 11d. ... 16s. 8d.
Hydrochloride ...	16s. 3d.	15s. 10d. ... 15s. 7d.
Sulphate ...	16s. 3d.	15s. 10d. ... 15s. 7d.
Phosphate ...	15s. 1d.	14s. 8d. ... 14s. 5d.

The above prices are per oz. net, and no falling clause.

COD-LIVER OIL.—The steadier feeling previously noted is maintained so far as quotations are concerned, but there is practically no demand. Best brands of new Norwegian oil are quoted at 60s. to 61s. c.i.f., and offers at slightly less would be submitted in one quarter.

According to cabled advices received from Norway, the catch and output of cod-liver oil up to May 25 were as follows:

	Catch of Cod	Livers for Raw Oils (hect.)	Yield of c.i.f. (hect.)
Finmarken, 1912 ...	24,818,000	17,716	18,183
„ 1911 ...	23,660,000	5,979	15,300
Whole Country, 1912 ...	83,000,000	25,137	65,399
„ „ 1911 ...	58,500,000	11,243	39,059

In the course of an article on the cod-fishing at Lofoten, published in the "Glasgow Herald," it is stated that the number of motor craft on the fishing grounds this year was larger than ever. Not fewer than 1,000, or one-fifth of the whole fleet, were motor-boats. Less than ten years ago there was not one motor-propelled fishing-boat in the north of Norway. Now there are at least 1,500, averaging about 600l. each, so that the motor fleet has cost well on for a million pounds. The average profit per man per day varies from about 1s. 6d. to 2s., with board and lodging.

COPPER SULPHATE is 5s. per ton cheaper, ordinary Liverpool brands offering for prompt delivery at 23l. 7s. 6d. per ton.

CORIANDER-SEED is unchanged at 14s. to 14s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco. Russian is offering at 19s. 6d. c.i.f. terms.

CUMIN-SEED is slow of sale at 24s. per cwt. for Morocco and 28s. for Malta.

FENUGREEK-SEED is steady at 10s. per cwt. for Morocco.

GENTIAN is firm at 27s. 6d. per cwt. spot for good dry whole root; cut is quoted 34s. and sliced 36s.

HYDRASTIS is offered at 22s. 6d. per lb. net on the spot, at which price the demand is chiefly for 28-lb. lots.

IRISH MOSS.—New crop is arriving, and is offered at from 22s. to 40s. as to quality.

JALAP.—During the fiscal years ending 1910-11 the exports from Vera Cruz were 250 tons (16,467l.), against 178 tons (11,487l.) in 1909-10 and 78 tons (4,296l.) in 1908-09.

LEMON OIL.—A Palermo advice dated May 18 reports that the weakness previously reported has become accentuated, and some holders readily sold their goods at current market values, and orders were filled at declining figures. Local speculators, who have still large stocks, the bulk of which was bought at the highest price of the season, say that they will hold back their goods until the next season rather than sell at the present low prices. For new crop (December-March) delivery, business has been done at the parity of 4s. 9½d. per lb. c.i.f., and for prompt shipment 5s. 7½d. c.i.f. is quoted. A further advice, dated May 25, reports that the weak tendency still prevails, but in the local market buyers have availed themselves more than consumers abroad of the opportunity afforded by this weakness. During the past week several transactions took place at higher prices than last quoted, although a small business was also done at lower prices: market closes uncertain, 5s. 7½d. c.i.f. being quoted for prompt shipment; no change is reported in new crop, a small business being done at 4s. 9½d. c.i.f. In London, agents quote 5s. 11d. to 6s. per lb. c.i.f. for prompt shipment, and new crop for December-January at 4s. 8d. c.i.f.

LIME-JUICE.—Although 21 packages were advertised for sale, they were not catalogued. Very little is offered in the private market, with retail sales at 2s. 4½d. per gal. for good pale raw West Indian.

LINSEED is firm at 70s. to 72s. 6d. per quarter for good fine clean seed.

MENTHOL.—Quiet. Retail sales of Kobayashi-Suzuki have been made at 21s. 10½d. to 22s. per lb. spot. For October-November shipment sellers quote 22s. c.i.f. in combination with oil.

MILK-SUGAR.—Owing to the increased consumption in the United States, it is anticipated little will be available for export from that source this season. The use of milk-sugar as an inert substance in the manufacture of compressed drugs has become imperative under the U.S.A. Food and Drugs Act, and this accounts for the increased demand; for Continental make, agents now quote 64s. per cwt.

NEROLI OIL.—For Bigarade petal extra, prices vary from 10s. to 11s. per oz., with other qualities down to 9s. per oz.

OILS (FIXED).—*Linseed* shows a further advance for prompt delivery, but forward is cheaper. Spot pipes are nominal at 46s. per cwt., and barrels at 47s. 6d. *Rape* is quiet at 33s. 6d. spot, and 34s. 3d. for refined in casks. *Soya* oil is firmer at 30s. in barrels on spot. *Coconut* is quiet at 41s. 6d. for Ceylon on spot, and 45s. for Cochin. *Lagos Palm* oil is quoted at 29s. in Liverpool and 32s. on spot. *Petroleum* is quiet at 8d. to 8½d. for Russian, 8½d. for American, and 9½d. for water-white. *Turpentine* is about 1s. cheaper, closing at 34s. 7½d. for American on spot. *Colza Oil.*—Stettin is steady at 36s. 6d. per cwt. ex store Liverpool in barrels. *Lubricating Oils.*—The Anglo-American Oil Co. intimate advances in prices ranging from 5s. to 10s. per ton. This makes the total advance from the low point last year of 1l. 15s. per ton, owing to the industrial activity. Consumption at present is on a record scale, and since the beginning of the year foreign imports have increased by 25 per cent., the feature being the increase in the receipts from Roumania and the Dutch East Indies.

OPIMUM.—Business is at a standstill, and quotations remain nominal.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on May 17 that "we have nothing to report, as last week's buyer, seeing that holders would not consent to sell at his limit of 15s. 6d. for 10.50 per cent., withdrew from the market, and no other buyer has come forward. Prices therefore continue to be maintained at 17s. to 19s. per lb. c.i.f. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 1,175 cases, against 4,541 at same period last year."

Should all go well (says the Journal of the Smyrna Chamber of Commerce), it is generally reckoned that we shall have an opium-crop of over 7,000 cases, of 160 lb. per case, including the Salonica crop. The visible stock on the Smyrna market in first and second hands is about 700 cases, but we believe that 200 to 300 more can be produced if wanted. Future prices depend upon the crop, also on the demand from consumers; but, whatever the outcome, we are not at all inclined to think that this year we shall see anything lower than \$3.65 to \$4.40 per lb.

OTTO OF ROSE.—As is usual at this season of the year, conflicting reports are current regarding the new-crop outlook. The distillation is just about to commence, but nothing definite can yet be said as to prices. Meanwhile, there is no business to be done, and for 1912 crop 47s. to 48s. per English oz. is quoted in one direction.

PEPPER is very quiet, the value of fair Singapore on the spot being 5½d., and for arrival June-August shipment at 5½d. White pepper is also inactive, fair Singapore offering at 8½d., and June-August shipment at 8½d. c.i.f. The spot trade in pepper and other spices is quite nominal owing to the strike.

QUICKSILVER is unaltered, the principal importers quoting 8l. 5s., and second-hand 8l. 1s. per bottle. Business is at a standstill, it being impossible to obtain delivery.

QUILLAIA.—In Liverpool from 26l. to 27l. per ton is quoted ex store.

QUININE is quiet but firm, with second-hand sellers of the usual German brands at 9d., Amsterdam at 8½d., and Java at 8½d. per oz.

SAFFRON is a dearer market, prices in Spain having been advanced in all by about 5s. per lb. within the past fortnight. Sellers on the spot now quote 44s. per lb. net for finest Valencia, but stocks cannot be replaced at this figure.

SENEGAL is firm at 2s. 9d. per lb. net on the spot.

SHELLAC is dull and unaltered, the value of fair TN orange on the spot being 63s., and for arrival prices are nominal at 63s. 6d. for May-June shipment of TN., and there are sellers of AC Garnet for the same position at 58s.

TARTARIC ACID.—Market remains very firm at 1s. 1d. for English and 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 0½d. for foreign, with continued scarcity for prompt delivery. This is one of the articles affected by the strike, supplies being unobtainable from the wharves.

TONKA-BEANS.—Angosturas are quoted 22s., frosted Para at 8s. 6d., and black Para at 4s. 3d. per lb. on the spot.

VALERIAN is firm at 50s. per cwt. c.i.f. terms.

London Drug-auctions.

Commercial Sale-rooms,

Mincing Lane, E.C., May 30.

As might have been expected in a holiday week, and with the Port of London in the throes of a great labour strike, the drug-auctions to-day passed off with a very dull tone, only a small part of the offerings being sold, owing to the fact that it would be impossible to obtain delivery of the goods in many instances. No Cape aloes offered, and for a new lot of Zanzibar in skins no interest was shown. Buchu realised an advance of 10d. on the previous auction sales. Cardamoms sold at an advance of 2d. to 3d., and cassia fistula is held for higher rates. Calumba was steady, and chiretta, being scarce, was bought in at a high figure. No Sumatra benzoin or dragon's blood was offered. Gamboge is held for previous high rates. Honey sold at irregular but generally lower prices for Jamaica and Hayti. Ipecacuanha was dull and 3d. cheaper for Matto Grosso. Myrrh is flat, and for nux vomica steady rates were paid. Grey Jamaica sarsaparilla was 1d. to 2d. easier, and Tinnevely senna sold without alteration, as also did Madagascar and East African beeswax. The following table shows the quantity of goods offered and sold:

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Aloes—				Cannabis indica	26	0	0
Cape	1	...	0	Cardamoms & seed	105	50	57
Socotrine	10	...	0	Cassia fistula	11	...	0
Zanzibar (cases)	21	...	0	Chiretta	16	...	0
Anise oil, star	10	...	0	Cinnamon oil	17	...	0
Bay oil	2	...	0	Coca-leaves	63	...	0
Belladonna-ext.	1	...	0	Colocyath apple	5	...	0
Buchu	12	...	4	Cuttlefish-bone	165	...	0
Calumba	213	...	52	Digitalis-leaves	8	...	0

Offered	Sold	Offered	Sold
Divi-divi	196 ... 0	Rhubarb (China)... ..	4 ... 0
Eucalyptus oil.....	28 ... 0	Sarsaparilla—	
Gamboge	6 ... 0	Grey Jam.....	24 ... 24
Gum acacia	25 ... 3	Lima Jam	10 ... 4
Henbane-ext.	3 ... 0	"Panama"	4 ... 4
Honey—		Senna and pods—	
Haiti	84 ... 49	Tinnevely	68 ... 68
Jamaica	139 ... 129	Tamarinds—	
St. Lucia	63 ... 0	W. I.....	35 ... 0
Ipecacuanha—		Tragacanth	5 ... 5
Matto Grosso ...	6 ... 2	Turmeric	134 ... 0
Kamala	3 ... 0	Wax (bees)—	
Lime oil.....	2 ... 0	East African.....	32 ... 11
Liquorice-root	5 ... 0	East Indian	34 ... 0
Myrrh.....	15 ... 0	Madagascar	68 ... 29
Nux vomica	174 ... 174	West Indian.....	1 ... 1
Orange-peel	14 ... 0	Wax, Carnauba ...	110 ... 0
Quince-seed	1 ... 1		

BUCHU sold at an advance of 10*d.* per lb. as compared with the previous sale, two bales realising 5*s.* 10*d.* without reserve for fair greenish round. Three bales of fair ditto, slightly stalky, were bought in at 6*s.*, a bid of 5*s.* 6*d.* being refused for the first lot. Two bales of fair long green sold at 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb. subject, and five bales of ovals were bought in at 2*s.* The *Kinfauns Castle* has brought 20 packages, of which 10 were offered in the sale to-day.

CALUMBA.—Steady; 20 bags of fair washed pickings sold without reserve at 15*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and 100 bags of small to bold ordinary natural sorts were bought in at 15*s.*; for 20 bags of good palish-yellow washed 23*s.* per cwt. was wanted. Another lot of 32 bags small to bold ordinary, part wormy, natural sorts, sold without reserve at 10*s.* 6*d.*

CARDAMOMS.—Practically all sold at 2*d.* to 3*d.* advance, including Ceylon-Mysore, extra bold fine pale selected, 5*s.* 3*d.*; good bold pale long, 4*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*; bold and medium, 4*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 5*d.*; badly clipped, 4*s.* 2*d.*; bold medium, 3*s.* 10*d.* to 4*s.* 1*d.*; small and medium pale, 3*s.* 8*d.* to 3*s.* 10*d.*; bold pale splits, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 8*d.*; medium, 3*s.* 6*d.*; good seed, 3*s.* 10*d.*. Eight cases fair Bombay seed were held at 3*s.* 9*d.* per lb. There has been a fair demand for cardamoms during the interval.

CASSIA FISTULA was held at a considerable advance, a bid of 24*s.* 6*d.* being refused for good sound Dominican.

DIGITALIS-LEAVES.—A lot of eight bags of ordinary, part matted, sold without reserve at 22*s.* per cwt. Privately 30*s.* spot is quoted for good green old crop.

EUCALYPTUS OIL is tending firmer. For 20 cases of 72.5 per cent. (Umney's analysis) the limit was 1*s.* 2*d.*, and a bid of 1*s.* 1*d.* is to be submitted for part. In another instance eight cases of 76 to 77 per cent. (Parr's analysis) were held for 1*s.* 2*d.* Australian exporters have raised their limits in several instances owing to the drought.

GAMBOGE.—For five cases of Siam of mostly good bright orange fracture a bid of 15*l.* was refused.

HONEY sold at rather irregular but cheaper rates, 130 packages Jamaica being disposed of, including: *Liquid*, good palish brown, 32*s.* 6*d.*; fair palish brown, 30*s.* to 31*s.*; and dark to darkish brown, 25*s.* to 26*s.* *Set*, nice pale, 31*s.* 6*d.*; palish, 26*s.*; ullaged and specky, 22*s.*. A lot of 84 barrels Hayti, a goodly proportion of which was in fermenting condition, partly sold at 26*s.* to 27*s.* 6*d.* for fair brown set and setting, 24*s.* for dullish setting, and from 18*s.* to 20*s.* 6*d.* for fermenting.

IPECACUANHA was about 3*d.* per lb. easier for Matto Grosso, six bales of which offered and two sold, including fair bright at 8*s.* 9*d.* and ordinary leanish at 8*s.* 7*d.* per lb. A bid of 8*s.* 4*d.* was refused for mouldy and country-damaged.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Five bales of thin and stringy under-corticated were bought in at 15*s.* per cwt.

MYRRH is flat. Three cases of fair partly blocky Aden sorts were limited at 65*s.*, and 12 bales of small part blocky Somali sorts at 55*s.* per cwt.

NUX VOMICA steady, 174 bags of good bright clean Madras being disposed of at 10*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

QUINCE-SEED.—A single bag of fair Cape realised 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica was about 1*d.* to 2*d.* cheaper, 24 bales of fair selling at 2*s.* 2*d.* for part slightly rough. Rather mouldy sold at 1*s.* 10*d.*, and sea-damaged at 1*s.* 7*d.* Four bales catalogued as "Panama" and of rough Lima character, part chumpy, sold at 1*s.* 5*d.* Ten bales of Lima-Jamaica were offered, and four sold at 1*s.* 5*d.* for rather coarse.

SENNA sold at unaltered rates, 64 bales Tinnevely realising 2*d.* to 2½*d.* per lb., without reserve, for middling to fair small greenish leaf, and 1½*d.* for common yellowish; two bales darkish *pods* sold at 1½*d.* per lb. No Alexandrian offered.

VARIOUS DRUGS.—The following were among the bought-in lots: *Divi-divi*, 196 bags at 8*l.* per ton; ten cases fair China *Star anise* at 75*s.*; 65 bales *Cuttlefish-bone* at 5*d.* to 3½*d.*; five cases fair small to bold Turkey *Colocynth* at 6*d.*; 107 bags *Turmeric*, including Cochinchina split bulbs at 18*s.*, and good Madras finger at 26*s.*; 21 cases Zanzibar *Alum acacia* at from 62*s.* 6*d.* to 75*s.*; 21 bags brown Barbary *Gum acacia* at from 49*s.* to 50*s.*; seven cases Ceylon *Cinnamon-leaf* oil at 2½*d.* per oz.; two cases Dominican *Bay oil* at 10*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; and 16 bales *Chiretta* at 1*s.* per lb.

WAX (BEES).—Quiet. The principal sale was a lot of 29 mats Madagascar, which realised 7*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* for fair brown block, and for 11 bags of East African pipe, part dark and drossy, 7*l.* was paid; for a single case of West Indian 7*l.* 10*s.* was paid for fair red and brown.

WAX (CARNAUBA).—A lot of 110 bags ordinary fatty grey was bought in at 8*l.* 5*s.* per cwt.

Manchester Chemical-market.

May 28.

Since our last the position in heavy chemicals has shown little or no change, the Whitsuntide holidays, as usual, having interfered with business. Deliveries of heavy chemicals have accordingly been below the average, but quotations remain unchanged. White caustic soda, 76 to 77 per cent., is 10*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 10*l.* 15*s.*; 70 to 72 per cent., 9*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 9*l.* 15*s.*; and 60 per cent., 8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 8*l.* 15*s.* Ammonia alkali, 43 per cent., is 4*l.* to 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton, in bags. Bicarbonate of soda, 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; industrial, 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; and tinted, 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*. Bleaching-powder, 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton for softwood casks, on rails. Salteake, 42*s.* 6*d.* per ton. Soda-crystals, 40*s.* to 42*s.* 6*d.* per ton in bags, f.o.r. at works. Aniline oil (pure), 5*l.*, and salts, 5*l.* to 5½*l.*. Sal ammoniac, firsts, 44*l.*, and seconds, 42*l.* Sulphate of copper, 24*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 24*l.* 10*s.* per ton, best brands, delivered Manchester. Green copperas, 12*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.* per ton in bulk, on rails, and 45*s.* to 47*s.* 6*d.* per ton f.o.b. Liverpool. Alum, 5*l.* 15*s.* per ton; loose lump, 5*l.* 15*s.* to 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; lump, in tierces, 6*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton, ground, in bags, on rails. Glauber salts, 42*s.* 6*d.*; Epsom salts, 65*s.* to 80*s.* per ton, in casks and barrels for export. Black oxide of manganese, 94 per cent., 29*l.* to 30*l.*; 80 to 85 per cent., 6*l.*; 70 per cent., 5*l.*; and 60 per cent., 4*l.* 5*s.* per ton. Acids and cream of tartar are steady. White powdered arsenic is 15*l.* 15*s.* to 16*l.* per ton, delivered here. Glycerin, s.g. 1.260, 87*l.* to 89*l.* in 5-ton lots, and 92*l.* 10*s.* to 94*l.* per ton in tins and cases in not less than 2-cwt. lots. Yellow prussiate of potash is 4½*d.* to 5*d.* per lb. Recovered sulphur, 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 15*s.* per ton on rails. Permanganate of potash is 35*l.* 10*s.* to 36*l.* per ton for small crystals.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

BALSAMS.—*Copaiba* remains firm, and fresh supplies sell well. Maracaibo is quoted 4.50*m.* to 4.70*m.*; Para, 6.25*m.* to 6.50*m.*; and inferior quality at correspondingly lower rates. *Tolu* remains very scarce, in spite of the high price of 6.75*m.* per kilo. *Balsam of Peru* is rather quieter in consequence of large supplies. For genuine 16.50*m.* is quoted by importers.

HYDRASTIS.—Sulzer Bros., of Madison, Indiana, have sold a large quantity of the stems and leaves of golden seal (not root) to a Leipzig firm. As these parts of the plant do not contain any hydrastine, it is wondered what they are to be used for. The above-mentioned firm states that the supply of hydrastis-root in the West is 3,000 lb., which is in the hands of two firms, and the stock in New York is 1,000 lb. No new is expected before June.

KOLA.—Some supplies of halves were offered in the Hamburg market, but quality was not very satisfactory; they were sold at the parity of 85*m.* to 90*m.* per 100 kilos.; meanwhile a parcel of good quarters arrived, for which the high price of 110*m.* was paid.

MILK-SUGAR.—The unfavourable condition of pasturage, as a result of drought in various countries, has led to a renewed reduction in the production of milk. The small German stock of milk-sugar, which has been decreased by a large foreign demand, will hardly be able to supply the necessary quantities for the autumn and winter months. German buyers are holding off, waiting for lower prices, and it is feared there will be a scarcity of supply for home consumption. The foreign demand continues very active, producers realising full prices.

World's Vanilla-crops.

Mr. Hermann Mayer Senior has issued his annual vanilla statistics, showing the world's production to be 590 tons for the year 1911; these were shipped to the various trading centres during the 1911-12 season, and were composed as follows:

	Tons		Tons
Bourbon	65	Guadeloupe and Mar-	
Seychelles	13	tinique	16
Comoro and Mayotte ...	70	Mexico	145
Madagascar	60	Tahiti	195
Nossi-Bé	10		
Mauritius, Java, Fiji,		Say about	590
and Ceylon	15		

The total yield shows very satisfactory dimensions, notwithstanding the shrinkage in the Seychelles and Tahiti returns, but as twice in succession no stocks of consequence were left to be carried forward into a new season, the market maintained its high level, subject, of course, to the inevitable fluctuations which a passing shortage or accumulation, large arrivals of immature parcels, or occasional ulterior motives of speculators, must produce.

New Zealand Honey-crops (1912).

The following reports on the honey-crop prospects have been received by the New Zealand Government from apiary instructors:

Auckland.—The yield on the whole has been poor, only about half-crops being reported on the average. North Auckland has had only a fair crop, also South Auckland, but considerably less than last season. Waikato and Thames Valley produced less than half-crops. The quality is excellent, and higher prices are being asked and obtained.

Wellington.—The crop in the Wellington Province, east coast, is much below the average. On the west coast there is little or no surplus. In the Taranaki Province it is much below the average all through. Hawke's Bay and Poverty Bay have a very poor honey-crop. **Christchurch.**—Owing to the unseasonable weather this season's honey-crop is very light. **Dunedin.**—The season has been a disastrous one generally. At the opening the outlook was promising, and it was thought that a record honey-crop would result; however, the continued unsettled weather prevented the bees from working, and feeding had to be carried out to keep them from starving. There will be very little honey for marketing this season so far as this district is concerned.

French Violet and Olive-oil Crops.

A Grasse correspondent writes recently that the weather in January and at the beginning of February was warm but very wet, but towards the end of the latter month it was much more spring-like. The peach, almond, and pear trees are all in full blossom, and all the other plants are in bud. This vegetation shows a good prospect for the coming crops, if there is not a frost later on, as was the case two years ago. The violets are doing fairly well, but the yield may not be so good as usual. The plants suffered from the great drought of last summer and also the disease which a few years ago spoiled the plantations. On this account at the beginning the producers asked a very high price (6f. to 6.50f.), but after the warm and wet weather of the first month of the year the crop improved very much; the flowers are very fine and in large quantity. The principal contracts were made at from 5.25f. to 5.50f., and there is no prospect of prices further declining. As regards olive oil, a big drop in prices was expected, the crop being thought to be a good one. Everywhere the quality is very fine, but the quantity is below average. The inquiries are very important, and merchants are buying large quantities for the whole year. On this account the prices for the "fine" quality are advancing in the South of France; for the "extra surfine" quality 4f. the double décalitre has been paid. Prices will remain as they are just now, and may advance later.

Drug-inspection in the United States.

In the course of Dr. H. W. Wiley's annual report on food and drug inspection during 1911 it is stated that continued improvement in crude drugs is shown. In the case of buchu, uva-ursi, enbebs, senna, etc., the occurrence of excessive amounts of stems or twigs has raised a question as to the maximum amount of these substances that should be per-

mitted, and as a general rule 10 per cent. has been adopted as a temporary limit. This may be regarded as too liberal by many, but it was the opinion that at present trade conditions did not warrant a more severe limit, for the reason that the admixture has been very high, in some instances as much as 50 per cent., and it is necessary to give the trade some time to correct the methods of collection. Certain importers have arranged to remove the excessive portions of stems from the leaves, and shipments have been permitted entry on condition that this be done, the goods being again examined after the stems have been separated. During the past year buchu has been scarce, and this has reacted in the presentation for entry of many lots of inferior quality, as well as large quantities of long buchu, both of which have often contained large amounts of stems. Some very inferior lots of ergot were imported; many of these undoubtedly were old goods, and have been subjected to some process, such as baking, which treatment rendered the ergot worthless for medicinal purposes. Large quantities of cubebs do not conform to the U.S.P., inasmuch as they contain an excess of sticks, stems, and immature and over-ripe berries. It is claimed that these are brought in for distillation, and such shipments are released by the Treasury Department under such conditions as will ensure their use for this purpose only. From the analytical figures it appears that immature berries are richer in oil than those that meet the requirements of the U.S.P., and are therefore more suitable for distillation purposes; this matter is being further studied. Many importations of asafetida have been permitted entry in harmony with Treasury Decision 31,097, which provides that under certain conditions asafetida may be allowed entry in case the product contains 35 per cent. or more of alcohol-soluble material. The inspection of essential oils has been extended during the past year to include all of those recognised in the U.S.P., the work hitherto having been confined almost entirely to lemon and orange oils. No particular investigation as to methods has been conducted, but data as to the composition of the oils presented for entry have been secured as a basis for future investigation.

The Strike.

The trade of the Port of London has once again been brought to an almost complete standstill by the strike of transport workers at the docks, which became effective from Friday last. Fortunately, the intervening holidays and the general suspension of business accompanying them have prevented its full effects from becoming operative in the chemical and drug trades. Apart from this, however, there has been a considerable dislocation of business, and it has been practically impossible to obtain or effect delivery of goods at the docks and wharves. Without entering into the merits of the dispute, it may be said the strike has been robbed of its chief weapon, inasmuch as means have been taken to ensure continuous food supplies from the docks. Masters and men are to meet in conference at the Board of Trade to-morrow (Friday), but the situation has several ugly features which do not favour a speedy settlement. Lord Desborough presided at a meeting of the London Chamber of Commerce held at the Cannon Street Hotel on Wednesday afternoon, when a good representation of the drug and chemical trade was present. Mr. John C. Umney was one of those who supported the Chairman on the platform, together with Mr. Stanley Machin, Mr. Faithfull Begg (Chairman of the Council), and other councillors. In the body of the audience was Mr. J. Harrison Dakin, Mr. Francis Ransom, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. J. W. Hope (J. Knight & Sons). Mr. Chapman referred to the holding-up of drug supplies at the docks in consequence of the strike. The following resolution was unanimously carried: "That this meeting affirms the right of employers to engage either non-union or union labour, and urges upon the Government, in the interests of the trade and commerce of London, the need for affording adequate protection to those who are willing to work and for maintaining absolute freedom of contract between employers and employed."

A meeting of the members of the "Baltic" was also held on Wednesday, when the two following resolutions were carried unanimously: "That this meeting of the members of the 'Baltic' Exchange, consisting of merchants, shipowners, and others, strongly urge that his Majesty's Government shall immediately provide full protection for all men who are willing to work for the Port of London." "That the members of this great commercial community demand immediate legislation to deal with the situation, believing that the present methods of protection are totally inadequate."

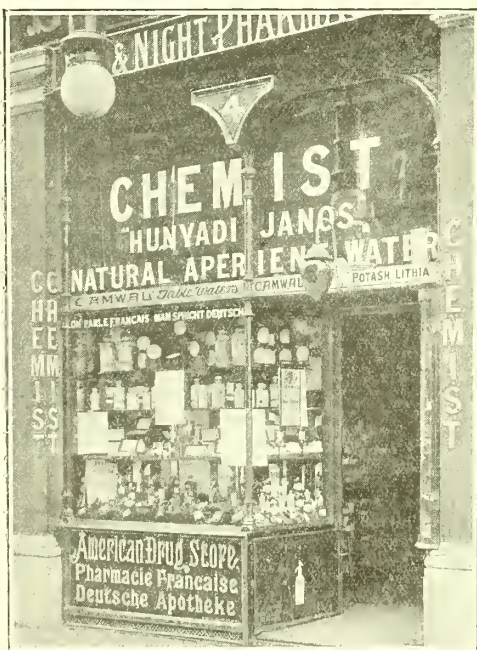
DELICACY of touch, and location needed by dentists can be induced by shaving with an ordinary razor without a mirror of any kind. Ambidexterity is cultivated by drawing and writing with the left hand.

Ipecacuanha.

The Straits "Agricultural Bulletin" for March, in a note upon ipecacuanha by Mr. R. Derry, states that the superior claims of rubber have so absorbed the attention of planters during recent years that only occasional inquiry is made of other plants. With many economic plants, particularly drugs, the demand is temporary only, and a fascinating price is best measured by the possible demand for the product and the probable extent of its cultivation. At the present time inquiry is again being made in the Straits Settlements regarding ipecacuanha, and, considering the consumption and consequent demand for the drug, the limited sources of supply, its slow reproduction and cultivation, Mr. Derry believes that there is a prospect for further development. In most instances, however, inquiry is based on its suitability as a catch crop, and the writer of the note proceeds to indicate its adaptability for cultivation under such conditions. After a short description of the process of collection in Brazil, Mr. Derry states that "in the East the plant is reproduced by root-cuttings (so far as he knows it does not seed locally, but where well-matured plants are available old enough to flower, seeds could be produced by artificial fertilisation), but such cuttings are not easy to establish, and if the root is subdivided into numerous cuttings due protection to prevent loss from excessive damp is necessary. On virgin soils, or where there is a depth of vegetable humus and the situation is moist and shady, the plant grows well when established, but the properties of the root deteriorate with continued cultivation. Such deterioration might be minimised, if not avoided, by mulching with leaf-soil and burnt earth, especially burnt humus, as the lime contained in burnt earth and applied in this form, although the proportion is small, is easy of absorption. Careful cultivation is necessary, as the alkaloid or active principal of the drug only amounts to about 1 per cent. of the root."

CHEMISTS' WINDOWS.

New ideas for dressing windows are invited. Photographs of windows sent to the Editor for reproduction should be accompanied by notes on how the displays were arranged.



In the American Quarter.

NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, LONDON, may fairly be so called. The pharmacy of Mr. Charles Brooks, at No. 4, usually has a windowful of American proprietaries, and such eye-fixers as "Leave your headache here." At present it is a study in brown, which is the prevailing tint of the "Amami" toilet specialties and perfumes that alone are exhibited in the window photographed. These are manufactured by Prichard & Constance (Wholesale), Ltd.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Toxicity of Methyl Alcohol.

SIR,—Mr. Thomas Tyrer's instructive article on this subject is no doubt conclusive as to the toxicity of this substance. And yet, from what I have known of methylated-spirit drinkers, it seems a legitimate inference either that the toxicity of methyl alcohol is over-estimated, or that habitual indulgence in it induces some degree of toleration. It is true that methylated spirit contains only a ninth of its volume of methyl alcohol, but when the quantity of methylated spirit consumed by imbibers of it is considered, it is surprising that they should, as I can testify, survive excessive drinking of it for many years. Methylated spirit and ether drinking are now happily restricted in area, and declining even where they were once most prevalent. In the Glasgow of the late 'eighties and the early 'nineties of the last century these vices were rampant in some of the poorer districts of the city, the traffic being carried on mainly through oil and colour shops and the lower class of doctors' surgeries. In the notorious case of one disreputable medical man, long since dead, a roaring Sunday trade was done in peppermint and anise flavoured methylated spirit; and it was a common sight for staid churchgoers to be confronted with the spectacle of tatterdemalion toppers quaffing their methylated tippie from whisky bottles in the entries near the doctor's shop, or reeling about on the pavement and open street in all stages of unsavoury obfuscation. These abject creatures often tried to get their supplies from the chemist, but it is to be recorded to the credit of the craft, then as now, that, with one or two exceptions, every suspected customer was turned away. Nor was it at all difficult to identify the victim of the habit. Even before he entered the shop, if he were to the windward an insufferable cacodylic effluvium heralded his approach. But even apart from this, the besotted face, shambling gait, shabby and filthy clothing, and furtive manner all told the same tale of physical and moral disease distinctive of the use of this intoxicant. The amazing thing was, however, that having become casually acquainted with many of these inebriates, and having kept them under intermittent observation for years, I found most of them living, and apparently little changed, after some of them had been addicted to the habit for ten years. In reply to my inquiries, some of the methylated-spirit sots explained that they got drunk sooner and sobered sooner with methylated spirit than with whisky. Indeed, one man boasted that he greatly preferred methylated spirit because he could get drunk on it three times a day for a quarter of what it cost him to get drunk once on whisky, and that it added mightily to the zest of his drinking to know that his liquor was duty-free. I cite these facts because they suggest an interesting physiological problem as to the extent to which the toxicity of methyl alcohol is modified when mixed with ethyl alcohol. Mineralised methylated spirit did not exist at the period to which I refer.

Yours, etc.,

J. P. GILMOUR.

Glasgow.

The Ideal and the Real.

SIR,—Pharmacy is the handmaid of Medicine. Have not our Chiefs told us so? The Pharmacist is indispensable to the Doctor. Our services are valued, and we are respected, by the whole Medical Profession. What a theme for after-dinner speeches! It is the Ideal! And

as the wine goes down smoothly and the smoke curls aloft, we rank-and-file listen and applaud; and in our imagination the Ideal becomes the Real. We see visions and dream dreams.

The Rector's Wife is ill. The Rector calls with a prescription from Dr. X. to be dispensed. He orders a clinical thermometer, a feeding-cup, and other requisites.

Dr. A. calls and asks advice as to the best method of administering leechin.

Dr. K. drops in with an invitation for self and wife to spend the evening with him one day next week.

Ideal! Real! I-de-re-al—as the atmosphere thickens—and so away home and to bed.

We rise betimes; but what a rude awakening! The smoke has cleared. The Ideal has vanished with the dawn. We are up against the Real. The Rector does not call. Dr. X. dispenses his own medicines, and supplies sundries too. Dr. A. does not ask our advice on matters pharmaceutical. Dr. K. drives past with nose in air.

This is the Real. The Doctors are not friendly. We are suspected, not respected. It is competition, not co-operation. By their own statements it can be proved.

A Blue-book was published some time ago entitled "A Report as to the Practice of Medicine and Surgery by Unqualified Persons." The Preface tells us that, at the instigation of the General Medical Council, reports have been collected from 1,600 Medical Officers of Health in the United Kingdom, respecting unqualified Medical practice in their districts. We are also told that many Medical Officers of Health consulted the local branch of the British Medical Association before reporting; and that the reports are representative of Medical opinion throughout the Country. By a very large majority the Doctors have declared that, among unqualified practitioners, the Chemist is the worst offender, as the following extracts from the Report show:

[Our correspondent quotes scores of passages about prescribing by chemists, proprietary medicines, abortifacients and abortionists, eye-diseases, infectious diseases, such as small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, ophthalmia neonatorum, chicken-pox, cancer, and consumption, from the Blue-book which Mr. Ledlie of the Privy Council has (since our correspondent wrote) admitted not to be impartial. As showing the universality of this indictment without impartiality, our correspondent quotes the charges made against chemists in particular towns, e.g.:

Aberdare. Large amount of unqualified practice by prescribing chemists. Effects cannot be calculated, but harm is obviously done.

Aberfeldy. Counter-prescribing by chemists. Detrimental to health.

Aurim. Chemists are consulted and prescribe, and injure the pockets of their customers rather than their health.

Similar charges are made against the chemists of Armagh, Ballinasloe, Birmingham, Burton-upon-Trent, Cahercive, Carrickmacross, Clonmel, Colne, Cromarty, Dover, Dublin, Eccles, Forfar, Grimsby, Huddersfield, Irvine, Kilkeel, Kilmallock, Kilmarnock, Kilsyth, Lowestoft, Macroom, Morley, Motherwell, Mountmelick, Nuneaton, Orkney, Rowley Regis, Stafford, Sunderland, Tottenham, Twickenham, West Ham, Wood Green, Youghal, and many others.]

Similar reports are made by scores of Doctors. Every Chemist should read this report. Sad reading, indeed! This is the Real! There is a great gulf fixed between the Doctor and the Chemist, and the Doctor has decreed that it shall not be bridged. The exceptions only serve to prove the rule.

The Doctors claim dispensing as a right; while, without a blush, they condemn the prescribing chemist. They are out for Fees. They hope to suppress the sale of proprietary medicines, and have secured the appointment of a Select Committee of Parliament to that end. And the Pharmaceutical Council—true "Handmaid" of Medicine—unmindful of the fact that a large majority of Chemists are themselves Proprietors of Medicines, the secrets of which they guard as jealously as Mr. Beecham, the Pharmaceutical Council has appointed a Committee of three true and loyal "handmaids" of Medicine; not to watch the proceeding on behalf of the retail trade; not to prepare a defence for the retail Chemist owners of proprietary medicines; but forsooth "to collect and arrange to give evidence."

Chemists must take care. It may be quite as necessary for us to watch the "Handmaids" of Medicines as the "Masters" themselves. If the blind lead the blind, shall they not both fall into the pit?—Yours truly,

PHARMACOPOLIST. (176/46.)

Dr. Tirard's Evidence.

SIR,—To anyone at all cognisant of the real facts, the suggestion of Dr. Tirard as to Squire's "Companion" and the "liq. morph. bimec." with relation to the B.P. must sound almost comic. I should have thought that any doctor of standing would be aware of the great difference, therapeutically, between Squire's preparation and the one in the late B.P. Personally, I have always used Squire's in dispensing, whether ordered as such or not. As regards the other point, I think every pharmacist will agree with me in saying that to get along in one's business without the B.P., but with "Squire" handy, is easy enough, but that is by no means so with the conditions reversed. If this is the sort of testimony which is to be offered to the Committee on Patent Medicines, pharmacists will justly regard with suspicion both the "evidence" itself and the conclusions founded on it. Yours faithfully,

Willesden Green.

HERBERT ROBERTS.

SIR,—In a report of the proceedings of the Select Committee on Proprietary Medicines I light on the following edifying passages:

"Mr. Bathurst: Let me take as an instance a drug (!) which is known as Easton's syrup, which I do not find in the Pharmacopœia.

Dr. Tirard: It is there, but not under that name. We do not use the proprietary name.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: Do you know any other instance of a proprietary medicine which was largely in use which the Pharmacopœia have (*sic*!) done that with?

Dr. Tirard: Easton's syrup, which was mentioned just now.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: Do you not agree that Easton's syrup was a proprietary medicine?

Dr. Tirard: I am not quite sure."

If these interlocutors are correctly reported, all three of them are under an unfortunate misapprehension. Easton's syrup never was a proprietary, and its exemption from stamp-duty is collateral proof of its continuously non-proprietary character (see *C. & D. Diary*, p. 444). I had fondly imagined that at this advanced time even members of Parliament and able medical editors were enlightened as to the "true inwardness" of the subject. But, apparently, it is still necessary to repeat and reinforce the veritable history of the advent of Easton's syrup. In the late 'fifties or early 'sixties of the nineteenth century Dr. Jas. A. Easton, Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in Glasgow University (1855-65), frequented the then notable West-end pharmacy of Murdoch Bros., Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, and was on terms of intimacy with the two brothers, who were in partnership. It had occurred to Easton that a solution of the phosphates of iron, quinine, and strychnine ought to form an effective tonic combination, and he propounded the idea to the Murdochs, one of whom readily undertook to essay the production of a suitable preparation. In the experimental work which followed, Murdoch was assisted by the late John McMillan, then an apprentice with the firm and later a representative local pharmacist. The result of their joint efforts was embodied in the original formula for syr. ferri phosph. c. quin. et strychnina, according to which the ferric phosphate was formed by precipitation. Easton found the preparation so efficacious that he began to prescribe it frequently, and, as naturally happens in such cases, it soon came to be known by his name, and its reputation spread abroad, so that Murdoch Bros. received numerous applications for copies of the formula from London wholesale houses and all parts of the country. The formula was disclosed from the outset and information as to the mode of preparation freely circulated. Mr. Colvin Gates, Ph.C., Glasgow, to whom I am indebted for many of these data, further informs me that he has heard old Mr. Murdoch, the originator of the formula, half humorously lament that he had not reserved proprietary rights in the syrup, and so floated to fortune on it. Such, then, is the veracious chronicle of the inception and introduction of Easton's syrup. And it is obvious that

whatever support Dr. Tirard's other costivelv delivered illustrative examples lend to his indiscreet confessions and "orrible revelations" concerning the secret history of the syncretic concatenation of the B.P., none is vouchsafed by the case of Easton's syrup. On the contrary, that case is typical of scientific as contrasted with meretricious methods of Pharmacopœia construction.

I am, yours, etc.,

Glasgow.

J. P. GILMOUR.

[The experiments which led to the production of Easton's syrup form one of the most interesting chapters in the history of British pharmacy. The firm of Murdoch Bros., referred to by Mr. Gilmour, consisted of George Murdoch and James Murdoch, George being the senior partner. It was he who undertook the experiments for Dr. Easton, and produced, with the assistance of his staff (which included John McMillan), the first batch of Easton's syrup. The Murdochs were a most interesting pharmaceutical family of four brothers, the eldest of whom was William Murdoch, and the youngest David Murdoch, who with his brother James were among the first chemists in Scotland to become members of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. David Murdoch was for many years in business in Falkirk. He has reached a ripe old age, and resides in retirement in Edinburgh.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Bay-rum.

R. T. (7/36) writes: In your issue of April 1, 1911, you stated that the addition of ext. quassie to formula for bay-rum would pass it as suitable for making with industrial spirit. I sent in subjoined formula, and got the reply as under; the underlining is by the Government Chemist. Would you kindly give a formula through your paper which would be accepted?

Oil of bay ... ..	... mxxx.
Oil of pimento ... ..	... m.
Oil of orange ... ..	... m.
Alcohol (90 per cent.) ... ..	... 5x.
Distilled water ... ..	... 3x.
Extract of quassie ... ..	... gr. xij.

Government Chemist's reply: "An *additional* denaturant is required in the bay-rum. There is no objection to the quassia as far as it goes; but quassia *alone* does not suffice."

[We did not say that it would pass, but to try it, and the result was that in our issue of April 29, 1911, we published the following formula, which the Board of Customs and Excise accepted:

Oil of bay ... ..	... 10 dr.
Oil of pimento ... ..	... 1 dr.
Extract of quassia ... ..	... 1 oz.
Saponin ... ..	... 2 dr.
Acetic ether ... ..	... 2 oz.
Industrial spirit ... ..	... 3 gal.
Water ... ..	... 2 gal.

No person may manufacture bay-rum from this formula without getting permission from the Excise authorities.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*

What it Is.

In our issue of April 13 (index folio 560) we gave a sketch and description of an apparatus which was thought to be pharmaceutical, and asked, "What is it?" It was said by one to be a pill counter or coater, and by another to be a powder-measure; but a subscriber in Savannah recognises it as "the receptacle out of which the balls are dropped in playing the game known as 'Keno,' and on hearing this our staff-poet thus broke out in song:

What do we know of "Keno," who only Kali know?
Though the gambler glide through the silent night with a face like the driven snow,
And a brain distraught with the burning thought of "Keno's" fatal blow,
We sleep with the sleep of virtue, for we wot not the "Keno" woe.

What do we know of "Auction Bridge" or the wild delights of "Nap"?
Our game is the game of "Patience," with a turn or two at "Snap."
The heavenly clang of the pestle drowns the deft dice-boxer's tap,
And we look through our own dispensing-screen for the gold in Fortune's lap.

The mark of our high-souled innocence is writ on our truthful brow;
We had thought this deadly instrument was for coating pills; but now
With the ghastly truth before us, may we ask, with our deepest bow,
And we ask for the sake of Science, "What is 'Keno,' anyhow?"

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1912, pp. 435 to 454, where most legal difficulties are anticipated, before writing about your difficulty

Shops Act: Questions and Answers.

T. H. B. (18/22).—It is not imperative that you should have window-blinds, but if you exhibit in your shop window other goods than medical and surgical appliances you must adopt some means of covering them during the half-holiday.

Abdulla (21/16) has the only drug-shop in his town, and also sells tobacco and photographic goods. There is another tobacconist in the place, who closes on the half-holiday. "Abdulla" opens in the evening. May he sell tobacco and smokers' requisites at the same time as medicines? [Yes, but he may not sell photographic goods.]

F. W. G. (183/33) asks if the provision with regard to the assistants' half-holiday applies to *locum tenens*. [Yes. The Act does not distinguish between temporary and permanent assistants.] Our correspondent says that if a *locum* does come under the Act, he does not see how he or any other chemist working their businesses single-handed will be able to get away for a holiday unless the place is left unattended. [This difficulty was submitted by Captain Jessel to the Home Secretary on May 22 (see *C. & D.*, May 25, index folio 775). Mr. McKenna replied that he could not trace any complaints on the point. We would suggest that those who are of the same way of thinking as our correspondent should write to the Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. See the article on p. 48 (index folio 810).]

Secretary (175/5) puts the following propositions in regard to the Shops Act, 1912: "What is the proper construction to be put on the term 'medicines' in the second schedule dealing with exemptions? For example, would a small shopkeeper (that is, not a qualified chemist or druggist) be allowed to sell such articles as camphorated oil, liquorice-powder, Epsom salts, and castor oil (1) in the event of chemists mutually agreeing to close, and (2) if chemists in a district obtained a closing order?" [As we have already stated, shopkeepers carrying on mixed businesses of which one is the sale of medicines, but this in a subordinate respect, are required for the purposes of early closing to declare with which business they will vote. In most of these cases groceries are the predominating part of the business, and if a closing order is made in respect to grocers, such shops will require to be shut on the day selected by grocers. This provision is in Section 10 (3), and the inference is that such shops should be closed absolutely; if not, they must conform to "such terms" and "such conditions" as are specified by order under Section 10 (2)—i.e., those binding upon chemists and drug-stores.]

Pestle (184/49) says his errand-boy, besides running errands, does the ordinary errand-boy's work—scrubs the floor and sweeps it, washes windows, bottles, etc., does dusting, gets paraffin, heavy and dirty goods—c.g., whitening, colours, oils—attends to empties (packing), and unpacking full goods—but does not personally serve customers. Is he entitled to get off at 1.30, as a shop-assistant, or not? He generally leaves work on Wednesdays at three o'clock. His hours are 7.30 to 7.30 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; 7.30 to 8.30 Saturdays; and 7.30 to 3 Wednesdays. [Shop-assistant's work in this list is getting paraffin and other goods for the employer to serve to customers, packing empties, and unpacking goods received. As far as we can judge from the statement, less than half the boy's time is devoted to these duties, so that he is not "mainly employed in connection with the serving of customers or with the receipt of goods or with the despatch of goods"; hence he is not a shop-assistant, and need not get the statutory half-holiday. The Employment of Young Persons notice has to be exhibited in the shop if the boy is under eighteen, and our Section 4 notice if exempted goods are sold during closing hours on the half-holiday.]

Medicus (Dublin) (185/29).—(A) Can chemists in Ireland who have a licence to retail medicated wines give an alternate morning and evening half-holiday to assistants? [Yes. The provision in Ireland as regards assistants in businesses licensed to retail intoxicating liquors is that

assistants shall be allowed on one week-day in each week a holiday of not less than seven hours. It is specially provided that "unless the employer and the shop-assistant otherwise agree, the weekly half-holiday shall commence either at the time at which the shop opens on that day ('a morning half-holiday'), or at a time not less than seven hours before the time at which the shop closes on that day ('an afternoon half-holiday'), and the aforesaid half-holidays shall be so arranged that the assistant shall be allowed a morning half-holiday and an afternoon half-holiday alternately." (B) Are chemists who come under the above heading exempt from granting the half-holiday for four consecutive weeks during the holiday season? [No; the question arises from an erroneous impression of the eighth provision as to such shops, which is as follows: "In any week in which an assistant is absent from his employment in or about the business of the shop, either on his annual holiday on account of ill-health or otherwise, the weekly half-holiday may be disallowed in the case of every other assistant employed in or about the business of the shop and the number of hours of weekly employment of every such other assistant may be increased by seven hours accordingly: Provided that, where the assistant is absent for more than four consecutive weeks on account of ill-health, the weekly half-holiday of the other assistants shall not be disallowed and their hours of employment shall not be increased by reason of such absence except in the first four weeks in which he is absent."] (C) Does the fact that a chemist retails medicated wines enable him to sell varied sundries and photographic goods on the half-holiday? [Yes. By Section 21 (7) all trades or businesses carried on in licensed premises are exempt from the half-holiday closing obligation.] It will be noted by other than subscribers in Ireland that the above provisions apply only to Ireland.

J. A. D. (188/30).—You will find all information regarding the registration of the name of a proprietary article in the *C. & D. Diary*, p. 203.

Doncaster (190/48).—The principal word in your labels is the name of a place, and as such is not registrable; but you may get the whole label, including the design, registered as a trade-mark. If you have no experience in such registration, an agent will do it for you at an inclusive fee.

Stock (189/52) asks if a private individual takes over the entire business of a limited company, and the company is dissolved, can the purchaser legally make use of printed matter purchased in the stock bearing the late company's name? [That depends upon the terms of his purchase; if nothing therein is against it he may, subject to the statutory condition that the word "limited" or any contraction of it may not be used.]

A Subscriber (188/12) asks if a handbill with the following wording will make the medicine liable to stamp-duty: "A necessity for the hot season. Head-and-nerve powders. N.B.—The safest powder made, and perfectly harmless. You simply take one dry on the tongue, and wash down with a draught of water, tea, coffee, etc. Repeat in an hour, if necessary. Those who take them praise them." [There is nothing here to induce liability.]

Restrain (25/312).—It is not possible for us to treat in strict confidence queries to be answered in this column, but yours amounts to this: You have entered into an agreement with your employers not to do a certain thing; this you now wish to do. What will happen? [If the penalty is not specified in the agreement, the amount of damage will have to be determined by the Court. Your best course is to give notice, or get the agreement modified. It is dishonourable and unjust of you to break the agreement while in the employment.]

Pills (23/55) was engaged as dispenser to a Union workhouse at 30l. per annum, and his appointment was approved by the Local Government Board. In the advertisement of the vacancy, and in the official letter informing him of his appointment, no mention was made of any terms of termination of engagement. The Guardians are appointing a resident medical officer who will do his own dispensing. Can the Guardians legally terminate "Pills'" appointment against his wish? Can he demand compensation as a condition of retirement; and if so, how much? [All that "Pills" can get is a month's notice, or wages in lieu of it.]

C. C. (175/34) notes that eau de Cologne is recommended in advertisements for the relief of neuralgia, and asks if this renders it liable to medicine-stamp duty. [The question arises from Sir Nathaniel Highmore's evidence before the Select Committee on Patent Medicines. Eau de Cologne is specified in the schedule to the Medicine-stamp Act, 1812, but for some reason, says "Alps," the Act is inoperative, probably because the imported variety is saddled with a

heavy Customs duty." The wrappers of imported eau de Cologne contain recommendations for its use to relieve headache and other ailments of that nature, and notwithstanding this the Revenue authorities have never required imported eau de Cologne to bear the medicine-stamp. This concession does not extend, however, to eau de Cologne made in Great Britain.]

Velox (188/5) asks if shopkeepers who are not licensed to retail stamped medicines may sell boracic-acid powder labelled thus: "Medicinal Properties, Antiseptic and soothing, as a lotion, 10 to 15 grains to an ounce of water. As an eye wash, 2 to 5 grains in an ounce of water, may also be used as a dusting powder for wounds or exema (*sic*). It prevents fetid (*sic*) perspiration." [No. Small shopkeepers who are not chemists require a patent-medicine licence to sell entire drugs the medicinal properties of which are set forth in the above manner.] "Velox" also submits a toe-plaster sold by unlicensed shopkeepers. This bears the following wording: "This — Plaster is similar to that sold for many years as Corn Plaster, but owing to a new Act has to be called — Plaster." [In our opinion this wording holds out the plaster as a remedy for corns, so that it must be stamped and the vendors must be licensed. The powder wrapper contains no dutiable recommendation, and the legality of the sale of the powders by shopkeepers depends upon their composition.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

S. & Co. (242/33).—HAIR-DYE.—See *C. & D.*, May 27, 1911, index folio 804. We do not repeat formulas which have been given in our columns within two years. For testing hair-dyes, it is necessary to employ hair; products of the vegetable kingdom are very dissimilar in structure.

Stain (153/54).—LARDANUM-STAIN ON FABRIC.—This could probably best be removed by soaking in proof spirit, but the possibility of altering the colour of the material must be kept in mind.

P. H. G. (271/3).—METAL-POLISH.—The reply to "W. J. C." will give you the usual ingredients of liquid metal-polish. We think your sample would be improved by using some solution of ammonia to form a soap with part of the oleic acid. This would prevent the powder settling down so quickly and densely.

J. L. G. (156/46).—We cannot find an article in the medical journals for the last two years under the title you mention. If you give us some particulars of the purport of the article we might be able to trace it.

T. W. (178/71).—PAINT-CLEANING POWDER.—This is a natural product, probably a particular form of kaolin.

S. C. N. (182/22).—(1) No standard for infants' food is laid down in this country, but information may be laid under Section 3 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, in regard to foods containing too much unaltered starch which may be injurious to the health of infants under six months old. (2) Your customer who took some pills which had been put into her letter-box, with the result that her urine became emerald-green, will probably have been taught a lesson. Several cases of the kind have been reported in the "British Medical Journal." Drs. Galla and Rolleston, in reporting on cases which came under their observation, say that inquiry showed that the patients had taken one or more of De Witt's "Kidney and Bladder" pills, which in many instances had been presented as samples. A prospectus with the pills contains the following: "Important Notice. If after taking these pills the urine becomes a bluish or greenish colour, according to the condition of the urine, you need not be alarmed. This shows that one of the ingredients, which is an excellent antiseptic, is acting properly." That the pills were the cause of the greenish-blue urine seemed certain before the doctors saw this notice, as a man aged twenty-one years, who had been in the hospital on many occasions, returned passing greenish urine and bringing some pills with him; after his urine had become normal in colour he took another pill, and his urine became greenish again. Methylene blue is the constituent in the pills which causes the abnormal urine colour.

W. J. C. (8/5).—(1) WATERPROOFING OVERALLS.—These are given several coats with linseed oil and lampblack, or the following paint is employed:

Syrian bitumen ...	40 to 50 parts
Resin ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 part
Boiled linseed oil ...	0.1 to 0.3 part
Hydrocarbon oils ...	40 to 50 parts

For the last ingredient turpentine or petroleum spirit is intended, either singly or mixed. (2) LIQUID METAL-POLISH.—The following recipes for this preparation are in addition to those given in recent volumes of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. The proportions of the ingredients may be varied according to the consistency desired:

1.	3.
Olein ... 18 parts	Olein ... 6 parts
Benzine ... 13 parts	Ammonia solution ... 3 parts
Ammonia solution ... 12 parts	Kieselguhr ... 18 parts
White bole or kieselguhr ... 43 parts	Water ... 73 parts
Methylated spirit ... 14 parts	
2.	4.
Soft soap ... 17½ parts	Olein ... 16 parts
Water ... 30 parts	Petroleum ... 45 parts
Methylated spirit ... 7½ parts	Kieselguhr (infusorial earth) ... 25 parts
Kieselguhr ... 45 parts	Ammonia solution ... 4½ parts
	Methylated spirit ... 10 parts

W. F. (178/52).—CLEANING SHOP-SOLED SPONGES.—Wash the sponges in plenty of water, warm for preference, and with a little soap, then rinse in cold water, and finally immerse in a dye-bath containing a trace of an aniline yellow, such as "yellow fast-to-soap" or Clayton yellow.

J. H. (179/59).—CINEMATOGRAPH-FILMS.—There is no book published which deals especially with the manufacture of the celluloid films used in cinematography. The manufacture of celluloid is dealt with in Bockmann's "Celluloid" (Scott, Greenwood, 5s.). The present endeavour is to produce a non-inflammable basis, many solutions of the problem being the subject of letters patent.

A. F. C. (157/49).—We are not acquainted with the preparation you mention, but it is probably a zinc oxide or oxyhydrate paste, kept moist with a small addition of glycerin.

Hypoderm. (177/59).—DEPILATORY.—We have seen a depilatory of the kind you mention. It appeared to consist of tolu-resin obtained as a by-product in the manufacture of syrup of tolu, and was supplied in a small shallow tin. For use, it was melted and spread on the parts to be depilated, then scraped off by means of a small spatula. It will be seen that the process is a mechanical one, and to pull the hairs out by the roots does not appear to be altogether painless.

C. C. (177/62).—STANDARDS FOR TINCTURES.—The table you refer to is that published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, January 26, 1901, by Mr. F. W. Fletcher. It is the most complete of its kind, and gives the various data in a convenient form for reference. Try Messrs. Fletcher & Co., Ltd., Holloway, London, N., for a copy.

W. G. M. (158/29).—SHOWCARD PAINTS.—The paints employed in showcard writing are the water-paints sold for artists' use. Glossiness is obtained by the use of gum acacia.

W. E. F. & Co. (182/21).—BOOK ON DRUGS.—Probably the best book for your purpose will be Greenish's "Text-book of Materia Medica" (Churchill, 15s.).

J. B. & S. (181/16).—PERFUME FOR SPIRIT.—There is a very wide choice of essential oils available for the purpose of perfuming industrial spirit, but the more persistent flavours are indicated, such as citronella, verbena, or santal, with lavender or geranium. It is not possible to give you exact indication without further details of your formulae, but it should not be difficult to devise a suitable covering perfume.

S. & M. (174/67).—DISTINGUISHING COTTON AND LINEN.—There is no chemical test; the fibres can, however, be easily differentiated by the microscope.

F. D. (Budapest) (178/15).—TALKING-MACHINE RECORDS.—The reference we gave to the C. & D., April 29, 1911, index folio 648, is the first note on the page. Carnauba wax answers very well, but stearin and metallic soaps are also employed.

J. M. M. (177/57).—COTTON-WORKERS' CATARRH.—The catarrh which cotton-operatives so frequently suffer from is due to the irritation caused by inhaling cotton-dust. A good treatment is to place a piece of cotton-wool in each

nostril, the cotton-wool to be previously medicated with an essential oil, such as eucalyptus. Conoids are a convenient medicament for this purpose.

Muta (172/24).—Tallow is the grease used on the slips from which ships are launched. Very large quantities are employed, and as much as possible of it is afterwards recovered from the sea.

Nostrums (184/21).—It is not possible to advise in the case of multiple abscesses without proper diagnosis, and much depends upon the patient's previous history. Send him to a specialist in Newcastle-on-Tyne or other neighbouring city.

D. A. D. (187/59).—(1) JOINT-ILL.—"D. A. D." writes: "A colt suffering from umbilical hernia was treated by a local man, and the navel ligatured with a horseshoe nail last year when colt was one month old. The colt gradually wasted, and another man, who was called in, found the nail embedded in a matrix of indurated matter. About three months ago—i.e., nine months after first operation—the joints began to swell and have continued to do so ever since. Is the mischief due to the presence of nail?" [This is certainly a case of joint-ill caused by the rough manner of operating and, quite probable, neglect afterwards. Septicæmia has undoubtedly set in, and is taking its usual course—viz., swelling of the joints and stiffness of the legs.] (2) TREATMENT OF ENTIRE HORSE.—"D. A. D." also asks for advice regarding an entire horse which will not serve mares with foal and in milk. This discrimination is not common, but when it occurs it is generally found in animals fed on soft or sloppy food when young or during the winter, to improve the appearance. The animal should not be allowed to go near the hindquarters of the mare during the preliminaries, and some stallion grooms in such a case as this employ a scent or "noser," such as ol. rhodii, which is sprayed over the mare's hindquarters before the horse is brought in. There is, however, no certain remedy for the trouble, but resource and cunning may effect the purpose desired.

Sapo (188/31).—A competent oil analyst is pretty certain to discover from its composition the source of any fatty oil. We cannot advise you further in the matter, but it should be worth your while paying for a consultation with an expert in such matters.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," June 14, 1862.

The Juries Bill.

The United Society of Chemists and Druggists display an energy which is in every way admirable, and should command the universal support of the trade. One of the principal objects which the Society proposes to carry into operation is the exercise of an unceasing vigilance over all legislative enactments affecting the interests of the constituency. We are officially informed that every exertion is now being made to insert an important clause in the Juries Bill which is now before the House of Commons, by which Druggists shall be exempted from serving as jurors in a court of justice. The reasonableness of such an exemption cannot for one moment be doubted, and that it would be of material benefit in contributing to the public safety is patent to every discerning mind. Physicians and Surgeons enjoy an immunity to enable them to prescribe, and a similar privilege should be accorded to the Druggist for the purpose of dispensing such prescriptions. The peculiar responsibility attaching to the sale of dangerous drugs renders the *principal's* constant personal supervision absolutely necessary for the security of the community at large. In the absence of the experienced head of a business, who is, moreover, peculiarly interested in its success, the public must incur a certain risk, inasmuch as the duties are exceptional, and no one can adequately supply his place. In the majority of cases there are few shops in which qualified managers are employed, and unfortunate patients are thus left to the tender mercy of incompetent junior assistants or careless apprentices. The inconvenience which frequently arises cannot be easily exaggerated, the proprietor being in many instances the only person who can make up an old prescription, although it may have been duly registered. It is clearly an act of gross injustice that the Pharmacist as a citizen should be denied a privilege which is conceded to others with less cause. The ready accessibility to the dispenser is equally as essential to the sick as the immediate presence of the medical practitioner, and it only requires these simple facts to be strongly urged upon the promoters of the Bill to lead to an investigation of the matter.